

• THE • AMERICAN • SCANDINAVIAN REVIEW



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FINANCIAL NOTES

PUBLICLY OWNED UTILITIES SHOW
LARGE EARNINGS IN SWEDEN

Public ownership of railroads, telegraphs, water power, and real estate earned large profits in Sweden last year, according to department reports just filed with the government. Even the post-office made money, a government department which in nearly all other countries continually ends its year with a deficit. Together with the government printing bureau these departments showed a net surplus in 1930 of 112,760,000 kronor, a splendid result even though it shows some 4,000,000 kronor less profit than the preceding year. Largest earning power was found in the State railways, with a surplus of a little over 44,000,000, with the telegraph board second. It earned 25,110,000 kronor; more by over 2,000,000 kronor than last year. The same was the case with the water power and post-office departments, showing respectively 16,580,000 and 15,240,000 kronor, or an aggregate increase over last year of nearly 1,000,000 kronor. Both the real estate board and the government printing bureau earned less than in 1929, each reporting respectively 11,600,000 and 21,648,000 kronor. This indicates that the State railways decreased in earning power over a period of one year by more than 5,000,000 kronor.

L. N. ERICSSON TELEPHONE COMPANY OF
SWEDEN INCREASES EARNING POWER

The British Branch of L. N. Ericsson Telephone Company, which is controlled by Kreuger and Toll, showed a prosperous year in spite of the general trade depression. The annual report, which was published recently, reveals that the net income rose from £64,087 to £88,713 over a period of a year. The company paid a dividend of 7 per cent. One branch of the company installed during the year a great number of automatic telephone exchanges in Great Britain and other foreign countries. The company absorbed, during the year, the entire capital stock of the British Automatic Totalisator Company, entered at £52,018. In spite of this heavy expenditure and the dividend, the company succeeded in setting aside in a reserve fund £45,000.

SWEDISH TURBINE COMPANY INCREASES EARNINGS

The Swedish de Laval Steam Turbine Company reports an increased net profit for 1930 of 716,000 kronor against 637,000 kronor in 1929. Using a conservative policy the company declared an unchanged dividend of 7 per cent, amounting to 44,000 kronor. Twenty-five thousand kronor was added to the employees' fund, the same amount as was used for that purpose last year, and 307,000 kronor was carried over in a new account. According to the annual report there has been no decrease in orders, the company saying that it has found business better as far as volume goes, but the slump in the market has caused a decrease in prices obtained. In order to reach the fine financial standing, which the annual report has shown, the company had to double its turnover in its steam turbine division and increased its crude oil busi-

ness 85 per cent. The pump and blower unit increased 20 per cent, the total of increases having been made possible through the installation of a number of labor-saving machines. An American branch of the company has reported an excellent year, paying its mother company \$111,210, or 15 per cent. The Spanish branch more than trebled its sales during the last year.

INTERESTING DECISION BY THE DANISH TAX BUREAU

The Danish tax bureau has recently, in a decision handed down in the case of a dividend which was paid by Privatbanken in 1928, adjudged this dividend non-taxable, basing its judgment on the fact that the bank, at the time of payment, was not an earning institution. The dividend was paid to stockholders on a 5 per cent basis and it was later shown that there was no profit to back up the dividend. This, the tax bureau held, meant that stockholders were paid, in reality, out of their own pockets and that it therefore could not be held taxable as income. The State tax laws specifically say that moneys are taxable when they come from a profit of the last or earlier years. Copenhagen editorials praise the decision, declaring that when corporations, as a last resort, attempt to clear financial difficulties by declaring dividends on a deficit, a sufficient loss has been suffered by the stockholders without the further burden of taxation.

COPENHAGEN OFFERS NEW BOND ISSUE

The city of Copenhagen is offering through Privatbanken, Handelsbanken, and the brokerage firm of R. Henriques, Jr., obligations on a 4½ per cent loan, the total of which will amount to 30,000,000 kroner. The loan, which was authorized late last year without being offered to the public at the time of authorization, will run for a period of thirty years. The companies, which handle the loan, are only offering one-fifth of the total at present.

NORWEGIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

A meeting was recently held at the Norwegian clubhouse in Brooklyn to discuss the feasibility of reopening the Norwegian Chamber of Commerce in New York which for some years past has not been in operation. Among those who took part in the discussion were Consul General Morgenstjerne and several of the Norwegian delegates to the International Chamber of Commerce in Washington. It was decided to apply for a State subsidy and to try to reopen the Chamber this autumn.

SWEDISH INVENTIONS CAPITALIZED

Headed by four Nobel Prize Winners, a company has been founded in Stockholm to develop and capitalize Swedish inventions. The new enterprise is called the Swedish Inventions Corporation and has a capital of half a million kronor. Its staff of experts will test new inventions, and the company will then finance those that seem worth while.

Foreign Credit Information

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Later than Per Kalm and earlier than Fredrika Bremer, another shrewd and sympathetic Swedish observer came to America and chronicled what he saw. Per Kalm (whose name remains in the mountain laurel, *Kalmia latifolia*) was a scientist, Fredrika Bremer a social reformer, Baron AXEL KLINKOWSTRÖM an officer of the Swedish navy. He came to study our navy and was the bearer of good-will from the Swedish government. When he arrived, in 1819, the moral support of Sweden both during the Revolution and in the War of 1812 was still fresh in the minds of American officials, and the Swedish visitor was given an opportunity to see everything and meet everybody from the President down.

The REVIEW is indebted to Mr. Emil F. Johnson, of New York, for the opportunity of printing these letters. The two-volume work is one of the treasures of Mr. Johnson's library, and it was he who called our attention to it. The translation is by Alma Luise Olson.

Last month Mr. Hans Mohr traced the historical origin of the two mother tongues in Norway. In the present issue ROLF THESEN, also a teacher in Oslo, describes some of the literature that has been produced in the Landsmaal. Whatever the sympathies of the reader may be in the language controversy, there can be no doubt that a remarkable fount of poetic writing has been opened through the use of the peasant dialects in literary composition.

FR. C. C. HANSEN is professor of anatomy in the University of Copenhagen and a member of the Government Committee for Scientific Research in Greenland. Among his numerous writings is a contribution entitled "Identification and Reconstruction of the Appearance of Historical Persons on a Basis of the Skeleton," printed in the University jubilee publication in 1921. It was he who identified the mummy of Earl Bothwell who is buried in Vaarevejle church, in Denmark.

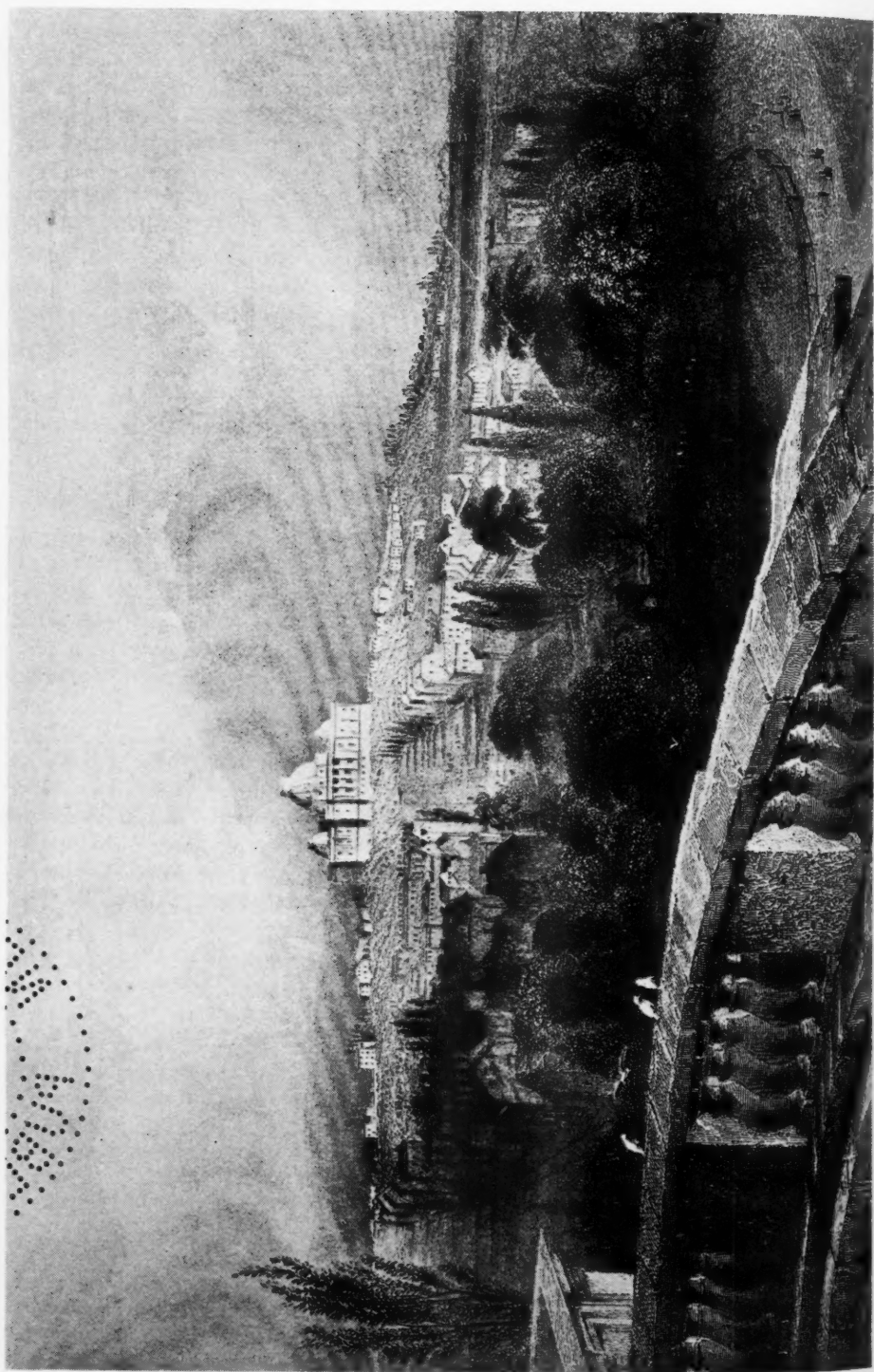
CHARLOTTE LUND is better known as a singer than as a writer. Her first published poem appeared in the REVIEW last year.

FREDERICK W. COBURN is art critic of the Boston *Herald* and since 1918 associate editor of the Lowell *Courier-Citizen*. He is author of many of the artist biographies in the Dictionary of American Biography which is now appearing volume by volume.

An interesting phase of the Swedish school system is described by AMY JANE ENGLUND in her article on Schooldays in Lapland. The Swedes, instead of imposing their own way of living on the Lapps, are bringing education to them in their own huts.

GEORG NYGAARD has several times contributed to the REVIEW.

The picture on the cover has been lent by the Norwegian Government Railways.



VIEW OF THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT, FROM THE MOUNTAIN OF MARIUT.

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THE AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN REVIEW

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In Monroe's Administration

Letters of BARON AXEL KLINKOWSTRÖM.

In the years 1818 to 1820 Baron Axel Klinkowström, Lieutenant Colonel in the Royal Swedish Navy, made a study trip to the United States and wrote his impressions in a series of letters dedicated to Rear Admiral Count Claes Cronstedt. The author states that, as his journey was made with official support, he feels it his duty to render a public report of what he saw and heard, although he apologizes for not being a writer, as most of his life has been devoted to seamanship. From his twenty-five letters we have chosen two descriptive of Washington and New York respectively. That on New York will appear in a later number.

Fourth Letter

Washington, February 12, 1819.

BEFORE my departure for Washington, our honored Consul General Gahn in New York had introduced me to Commodore Chauncey, who is head of the New York squadron, and also to Mr. Thomson, who after being chief justice in New York State has recently been appointed Secretary for Naval Affairs.

These two gentlemen, who live in New York, had preceded me to the Congress, and my first task on arrival in Washington was therefore to find them in order to be presented to the President and to the members of the Admiralty.

From the Secretary for Naval Affairs, Mr. Thomson, I asked for an audience with the President. "You can immediately appear before Mr. Monroe," he answered; but since I was not in uniform I did not consider it suitable for me to see him. Thomson laughed and assured



ELIZABETH KARTRIGHT MONROE

me that one was not so particular in this country and that without offense to good form I might very well follow him up to the Residence.

I passed no guards or sentinels in the avenue to the President's house; there was not even an honorary guard in the entrance itself; a servant in livery showed us up one flight and went in to announce us. In a little while we were admitted; the President, dressed in a plain brown coat, came very courteously towards us and asked us to sit before the fire. Two other persons were there and talked in a rather

confidential tone; one of them, dressed in a surtout, sat in a very unceremonious position, with one leg thrown over the other knee.

However simple and unceremonious I found this introduction, still I could not believe that in such a free manner one really dared to associate with the highest official of the State: at first it offends anyone just arrived from Europe, a stranger who has not yet had time to get accustomed to the freer ways of this country, and it seemed to me that these two gentlemen might have shown a little more external respect for the President, whose unassuming but still highly dignified manner deserves every possible manifestation of esteem. After the departure of the two gentlemen, I handed the President the letter that the American Minister residing in Stockholm, Mr. Russell, had given me; and asked for the privilege of visiting the naval docks of the United States, which the President very graciously granted me, adding with a smile that it would please him if a stranger could find anything new and instructive in so young a country as the United States; to which I answered that I thought the time was very near when Europeans would visit America not to bring over new inventions but to fetch information and instruction about new things regarding which in the Old World one had either incomplete ideas, or none.

The Residence is situated on a charming high place from which one has an unobstructed view towards the Potomac River. On the raid which the British made during the past year to the city of Washington, the President's home was burned; but the United States has now rebuilt it in a very handsome Ionic style. Otherwise the Residence is neither large nor impressive. I once said to one of the members of Congress that the highest official of the United States was none too luxuriously housed. He answered that the building was quite practical for its purposes, adding that if it were larger and handsomer some President might find himself disposed to be its continuing inhabitant, against which one must be on guard.

Commodore Chauncey was kind enough to take me to the Secretaries for the other departments. I met only Mr. Colquhoun [Calhoun], who is in charge of the War Department; he was a very courteous and enlightened man. During the talk I had with him he asked about the organization of the Swedish army, and I gave him in brief an idea of our military tenure, which he seemed to favor. Mr. Chauncey introduced me also to the members in charge of the administration of the fleet, Commodores Rodgers, Decatur, and Porter; I shall later tell about these esteemed and learned men by whom I was received in a very attentive and open-hearted manner.

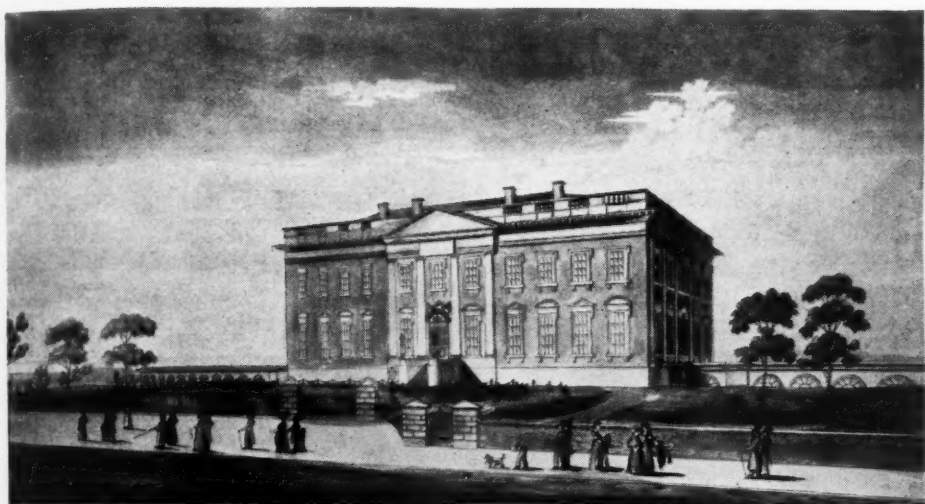
Mrs. Monroe's courts, or, as they are called here, levees, are very interesting for one who to some degree can make a comparison with the court etiquette of the Old World. From the entrance hall below one comes à *plein pied* into a large and attractive rotunda; a little to the left of the center of this room stood Mrs. Monroe. On arriving, all go up to her and bow, and she answers the greeting with a little nod of the head. As a stranger one does not have much to say, and what better can the President's wife find to begin the conversation than to ask how long one has been in America and the like; but this conversation soon ends. Mrs. Monroe was very elegantly dressed at the first court; her costume consisted of a white gown of India mull, embroidered with gold, her hair was braided with pearls and adorned with a lovely diadem of gold set with pearls, and ornaments of pearls adorned her throat, arms, and ears. She seemed to be between thirty and forty years old, medium sized, her face set off to advantage by her beautiful hair; and without being what one really calls a beautiful lady she had something very agreeable and pleasant about her whole attitude; but from what I could judge she did not seem to enjoy this presentation greatly.

In the center, behind Mrs. Monroe, the ladies were grouped; it seemed strange that all the ladies sat; to me it would have seemed more appropriate if the other ladies too had been standing since the President's wife stood to receive all the strangers.

The ladies were stylishly but not extravagantly dressed, I noticed only three or four who had jewels and real pearls, although I believe that the American wives can afford to wear these ornaments, but such luxuries do not seem to have reached the height here that they have in Europe. Some of the ladies from the interior States seemed to be less stylishly dressed; the best dressed women I assumed were from the Southern States, where I believe that prosperity and luxuries are greater than in the Northern.

The reception rooms are not furnished elaborately but quietly and in good taste, to conform with the rank of an official in this country where democracy reigns. In many places in Europe I have seen many more magnificent rooms in the houses of officials who, in reference to their rank and position in the State, cannot be compared to the President of the United States.

After one had bowed to the President's wife, one goes into a side room, where the President usually can be seen. When all have arrived some of the ladies occasionally take a turn in the rooms; then they select a man from among their acquaintances to accompany them; one looks up various acquaintances, and the evening is spent in conversation. Through Commodore Chauncey I was introduced to Mrs. Schuy-

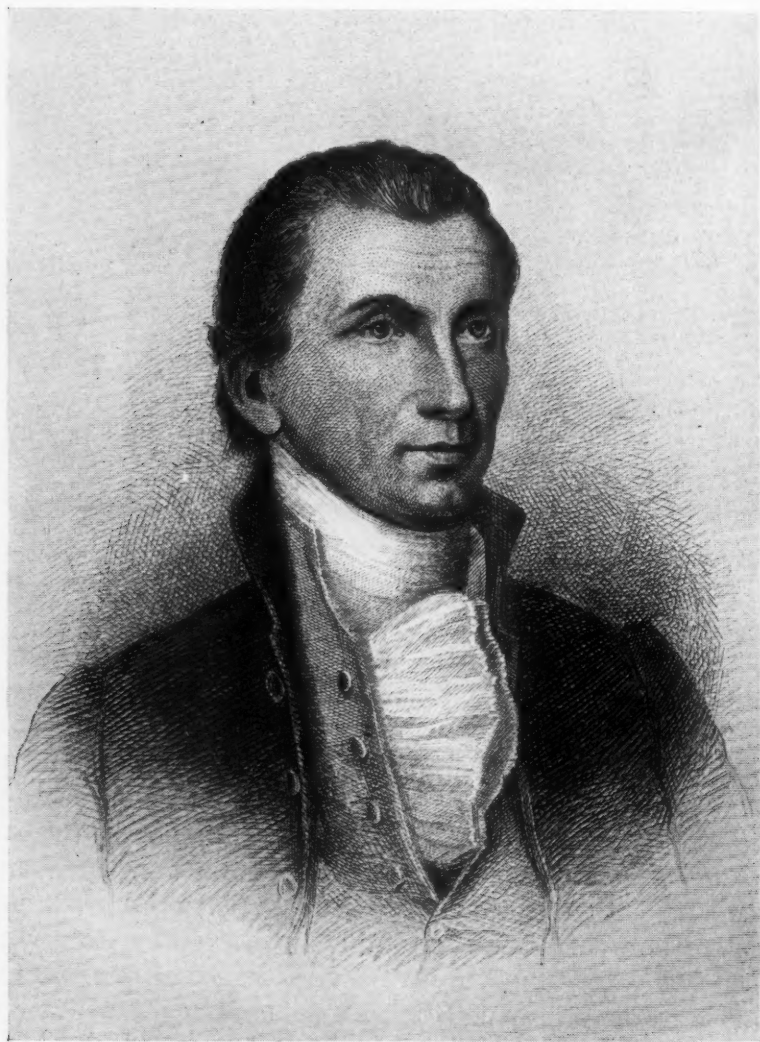


THE PRESIDENT'S HOUSE IN 1826

ler and Mrs. Decatur, both pretty, courteous, and very stylishly dressed; Mrs. Schuyler is really a very beautiful person. These two ladies were kind enough to choose me to conduct them on their turn through the rooms.

At the court was a large gathering of all classes and ranks of the community; and, as I judge, every free American that owns ground or carries on his own business has the right to appear at the courts of the President's wife. Foreign ministers, consuls, travelers, American officers and officials were quietly dressed, partly in uniforms, partly in plain clothes; but there were also others, badly and slouchily dressed, who seemed to want to display themselves in a costume less tidy and less suitable to the occasion. I noticed some farmers or other men in stained clothes, uncombed hair, unbrushed and muddy boots, just as they had come from the street; these figures contrasted sharply with the rest of the gathering. At one of the courts I attended there was also a Chief of the Creek tribe, together with some of his Indians, dressed according to the custom of their people; it is unnecessary further to describe their costume since it often appears in engravings. The Chief revealed great pride; the bearing of these primitive people was very dignified, and I noticed no embarrassment on their part as they entered the room and no curiosity or surprise at the objects that surrounded them. At about 10 o'clock in the evening coffee, tea, confitures, and glacées were served, and about 12 o'clock the gathering broke up. . . .

The site of Washington was presented to Congress by the State of



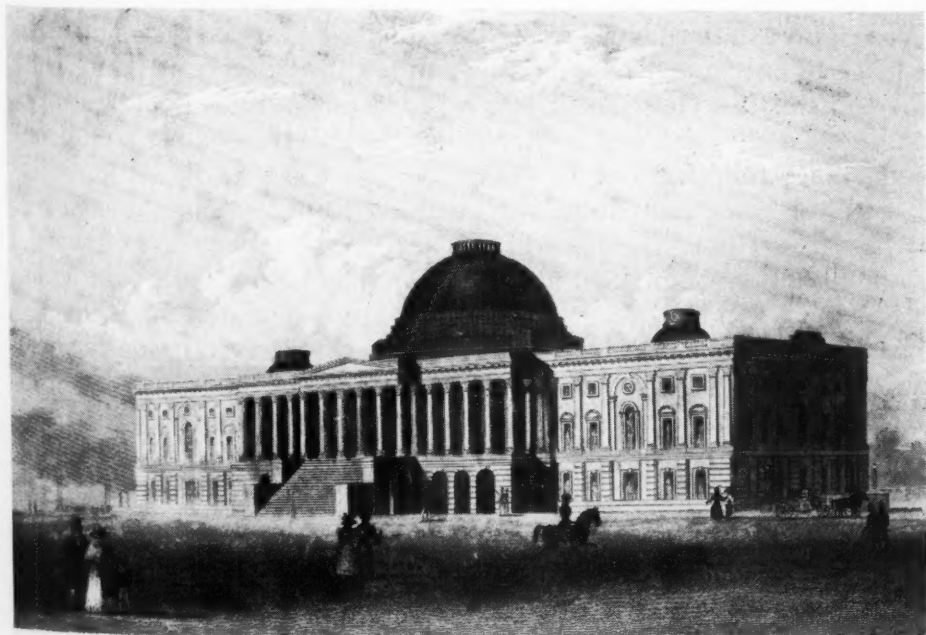
PRESIDENT JAMES MONROE

Maryland for the founding of the city, and comprises ten English square miles; it is a level, high-lying plain, which on one side is bounded by the Potomac River and in addition is penetrated by a small brook, which flows just below the height on which the Capitol is built and which amusingly enough has been called Tiber, although it in no way resembles that famous river. As suburbs to Washington one might consider Alexandria in Virginia, which lies on the other side of the Potomac, and Georgetown, which is separated from the new Washington by a little creek called Rock Creek. A bridge a mile long spans the Potomac and joins Washington to the coast of Virginia. The site

is well chosen, dry, elevated, and healthful; water is not lacking. So far very few of the streets have been built up in this lovely tract, and one comes upon only a few houses here and there. The region around the wharf, Greenleaf Point, Pennsylvania Avenue, and the vicinity of the Capitol are built up to some extent, but only with difficulty can one find in the whole city any stretch of houses that extends for eight hundred yards without seeing empty lots between.

The most frequented street is Pennsylvania Avenue; but it is not paved, and so in dry weather and wind one is choked by the dust that is raised by the numerous carriages that daily pass to and from the Capitol and that usually follow this street; in rainy weather again the mud is frightful, and one sinks down above the ankles; the sidewalks left on the sides of the road are not entirely paved. The distances between the houses are very long, one reckons them in miles, and if I am to find time in the morning to visit some of the gentlemen with whom I need to talk about the purpose of my journey, I must always call a carriage or a chaise, a very noticeable outlay of money in so expensive a place as Washington.

On the wide-reaching desolate region that surrounds the few groups of houses which have been built here and there, roads and paths cross one another in all directions, and a stranger often finds it difficult to make his way about unless he uses the Capitol or some church as his



THE CAPITOL IN THE EARLY NINETEENTH CENTURY

objective and makes his way straight across the plain, for one seldom meets anyone in these parts whom one can ask for information. . . .

When the British during the past war burned the President's house and docks, they also destroyed the Capitol; now it is in process of rebuilding, and the two side wings are ready. The Capitol is well situated; it dominates the whole plain and the Potomac River, but the architect has not sufficiently used this well selected site to erect a dignified building. Externally it is decorated in Corinthian style, but the parts are too small and give no effect at a distance; the Doric or Ionic style would have been better for the outside, in my opinion.

The inside of this building is also disappointing in its arrangement; there is no sense of a whole or of unity; the rooms are indeed many in number, but in general they are too small; however, there has been no economy in the use of marble and other beautiful stones. . . .

As I told you in my last letter, I was forced to find lodgings in Georgetown, which is a suburb of Washington itself. The impudent and harsh manner in which I and the other guests of the house were received displeased me greatly. I had been given a room on the basement floor which was fairly large; the sleeping place had been partitioned off from the rest of the room with a screen, and when I asked for my bill I found that I had been charged for bedroom and parlor. My bill as a consequence rose to thirty-five dollars for one week without my having enjoyed anything but the usual fare of the house. I asked my landlord how he could say that I had used two rooms when I had had only one, whereupon he pointed to the screen behind which the bed stood, saying that it was a bedroom. With as good reason he might even have charged me for using the entrance hall, stairs, doors, and similar things.

I have become acquainted with Colonel Louis, one of the members of Congress from Virginia, who is a very highly esteemed and worthy man; to him I complained about the conduct of my host; and he has been kind enough to get me into a boarding-house patronized by several of the members of Congress, to whom he very courteously introduced me. Thankful to escape my expensive and impudent landlord, I immediately moved to the neighborhood of the Capitol, where this boarding-house is located; it is run by a Mr. Washington, distantly related to the great man whose name he bears. For eighteen dollars per week I finally got a warm room that had a very beautiful view towards the Potomac and the wooded shores of Virginia; the meals were good and sufficient, the residents respectable and cultured, and I can now devote myself in earnest to the completion of my annotations and drawings.

At first the other occupants seemed to be embarrassed, and some did not seem to like my appearing in their circle; but when they were told about the purpose of my journey and noticed that I did not mix in the affairs of their country, their attitude began to be more polite, and I have every reason to be satisfied with the friendly and confidential way in which I am received.

The conversation during dinner usually concerns political and economic subjects; hot debates often arise, for minds have not yet had time to grow calm after the sessions in Congress, where sharp disputes, often not without bitterness, are constantly going on.

After tea time some of the members of Congress together with their wives spend the evening with Mrs. Belmain, sister of our landlord. Her three daughters were born in Scotland, and they are very beautiful and have very lovely voices; the evenings are spent in varied talk, the girls sing Scotch airs and ballads, stories are told, and the gathering breaks up about 11 o'clock. You can well imagine that at these coteries I by no means escape being asked to offer something for the amusement of the company in the way of stories about different European countries, and I try my best to do this without wearying my audience, as I fear I may have wearied you with my long letters. . . .

One of the members of Congress in the same house, a General Storer from Portsmouth, New Hampshire, together with his wife, recall with pleasure some of the Swedish officers who during the American Revolution served in the French fleet and were with it at Newport, Rhode Island: he asked especially after Hogenhusen, Baron Olof Cederström, and Admiral Nauckhoff, all of them persons with whom he had intimate friendship. A Mr. Hunter from Rhode Island speaks of the deceased Lord High Steward Count Axel Fersen, whom he knew very well during the French war and from whom he still has letters in his possession. . . .

Since the two wings of the Capitol are not yet completed so that Congress can hold its sessions there, the members assemble in another large house which has been prepared for their meetings. A couple of times I was present at the sessions in the House of Representatives, where there is a spacious gallery for visitors and native residents who do not belong to the Congress, as well as for the wives of representatives, who with great interest listen to the debates.

At one of these sessions much was said about the demeanor of General Jackson during his campaign against the Seminole Indians. He had captured two British adventurers, who were convicted of having stirred up the Seminoles against the United States and led their raids into the State of Georgia, where these barbarians practised many

cruelties. It is maintained that after these two captured Britishers had been tried for their conduct before the courts of the United States and been acquitted of the death penalty, General Jackson still of his own power had court martialed the prisoners and had them executed as spies or rather as persons who without warrant had entered the service of a barbaric Indian tribe to lead their raids. Many persons criticize General Jackson's conduct, not so much because he let the two Britishers be executed, but more because, after the court had tried and acquitted them, he nevertheless had them court martialed and shot; his action is declared to be bold and lawless, and the House of Representatives has wholly discountenanced it. Many fear the enterprise of this man, all the more because it is known that he is beloved by the army, especially by the Kentucky and Tennessee militia, with which he won the battle of New Orleans and completely destroyed the British army, which, towards the end of the war, had landed in Mississippi. All officials, and especially the military, have warmly espoused General Jackson's cause against the anti-administration group, and when I was present at a session in which this matter was aired, I heard General Harrison defend his conduct in a fine speech and with a worthy manner.

However, it is very clear how the administration feels about the matter; for, to judge by the free and determined way in which General Jackson and his staff presented themselves the first time at the court of the President's wife, after his return from Florida, and by the way he was received both by the President and all officials, although his trial was in full swing, one can easily see that he has little to fear. . . .

However expansive this letter has become, I have much more to tell about Washington, which will form the contents of my next letter. Farewell.



"HISTORY"

Painting by Edvard Munch in the Assembly Hall of Oslo University

New Norwegian Literature

By ROLV THESEN

By the phrase "New Norwegian literature" the author does not mean merely Norway's literature of recent date, but a particular part of it, namely, that written in the standard form of dialects formerly known as *Landsmaal*, now officially designated as "New Norwegian." In his article on "The Norwegian Language Problem" in the June Number, Mr. Hans Mohr described the peculiar conditions that gave rise to this language and the struggle between the two forms of the mother tongue.

IT IS generally estimated that the literature which has sprung into existence in the Norwegian *Landsmaal*—or New Norwegian as this language is now officially designated—begins with Ivar Aasen. And in a way this is right. But it is also wrong.

It is right in so far as Ivar Aasen was the first to draw up one standard written form—the *Landsmaal*—for the New Norwegian dialects and afterwards, in the eighteen-fifties, to begin to write poetry in this language. But there was a New Norwegian poetry before Ivar Aasen; for as a matter of fact a dialect answers quite well for the composition of poetry. A written medium is, of course, an important condition for the growth and expansion of a literature, but it is no absolute essential to the life of folk poetry.

The literary language of Old Norse—the language of the sagas, Eddas, and skaldic poetry—fell into decay after about 1300; it was not cultivated as it had formerly been. But it did not die. During the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries it underwent a process of simplifica-

tion similar to that through which other European languages passed, and in the course of the sixteenth century had already reached the "New Norwegian" stage.

During these centuries from the time of the sagas down to Ivar Aasen, a poetry in the language of the people had grown up here in Norway, an anonymous poetry—folk songs, "staves," legends, fairy tales—which carried the literary tradition right down through the Danish era to our own day, a submerged poetry which developed independently of the imported Danish language, and independently of the poetry composed in Danish by Norwegians like Petter Dass, Holberg, and Wessel. Besides this anonymous poetry—folk poetry—we have also before Ivar Aasen a less important body of poetry in New Norwegian dialects by acknowledged authors. The best known of these is Edvard Storm (1749-94), the son of a clergyman; his *Songs of the Valley* in the Gudbrandsdal idiom foreshadow two of our modern writers of lyrics, the Gudbrandsdal poets Olav Aukrust and Tore Ørjasæter.

It is, then, this folk poetry, anonymous and onymous, which is the connecting link between Norwegian literature in the period of the sagas and Norwegian poetry in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries; it represents a "hidden" Norway, as the Danish critic Jørgen Bukdahl calls it, a Norwegian intellectual life which grew up during the long period of our political and national abasement, when we lay in subjection to our neighboring countries.

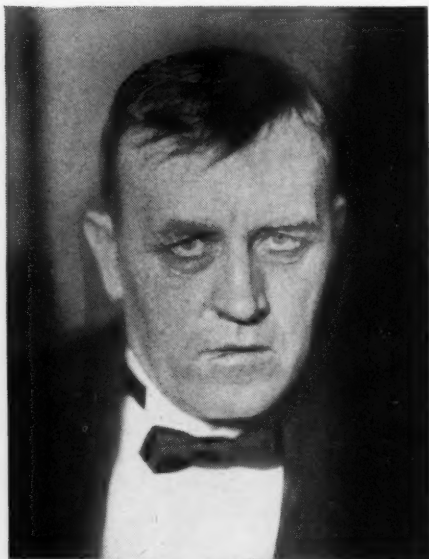
Nor was poetry the only art that flourished in the Norwegian valleys in this period: other arts—music, weaving, wood-carving, and decorative painting—also originated. As Jørgen Bukdahl has said in his book *The Hidden Norway*: "The valleys possessed an intellectual life. Anonymously, in silence and concealment; but carrying on, no less surely for that, a tradition from the time of the sagas." And it is on the foundation of this intellectual life and this tradition that modern Norwegian literature, and not least that in New Norwegian, or Landsmaal, has grown up, so that there actually exists in our literature an unbroken line for a thousand years. If one realizes this, and if one realizes that there was poetry in New Norwegian dialects three hundred years before Ivar Aasen gave them a common written language, one perceives that it is not absolutely correct to say that New Norwegian, or Landsmaal, begins with Ivar Aasen. It is, after all, only half of the truth, and hardly that.

IN THE SECOND half of the nineteenth century there were four important poets writing New Norwegian: Ivar Aasen, Aasmund Vinje,



ARNE GARBORG

From a Painting by Eilif Peterssen



TORE ÖRJASETER

Arne Garborg, and Per Sivle. Each in his way has played a decisive rôle in our intellectual and national life: Ivar Aasen with his ingenious linguistic research and his simple, heartfelt songs about nature and folk life in Norway; Aasmund Vinje with his warm, highly emotional, sometimes cosmic verse, with his "double vision" and his healthy realism; Arne Garborg with his deeply serious work and his polemics against untruthfulness and hypocrisy in politics, religion, and morality; Per Sivle with his sonorous verse and his struggle for our political and national emancipation.

About 1890 and during the 'nineties a number of new authors began to make themselves felt in New Norwegian literature: Jens Tvedt, Rasmus Løland (died 1907), Hans Seland, Vetle Vislie, Ivar Mortensson-Egnund, Anders Hovden, Hulda Garborg, Sven Moren, and Lars Jaastad.

Jens Tvedt's sketches of folk life from Hardanger are born of humor and compassion. He has an intimate knowledge of his workaday folk and sketches them minutely and authentically. These people are possessed of an ethical earnestness, a stubborn strength, which has the power of clothing their everyday lives with a mantle of greatness and loftiness. Lars Jaastad, too, has written sketches of Hardanger, less distinguished than Tvedt's, but simple and sympathetic. Rasmus Løland and Anders Hovden are also Westerners, the former from Ryfylke, the latter from Sunnmøre. Løland is one of the finest prose writers in New Norwegian literature. His descriptions of children in particular are pure gems. Jörgen Bukdahl has, in *The Hidden Norway*, made a praiseworthy attempt to give this author the place he deserves in Norwegian literature. Hovden pictures Sunnmøre both in verse and prose. He is first and foremost a lyric poet; his lyrics are flooded with the fresh spirit of the sea, and his hymns are among the finest and most significant in our hymnody along with those which the Northerner, Elias Blix (1836-1902), has given us.

Hans Seland is from the South country. His tales of the Southern peasants have attracted less attention than his short stories, which

are characterized by a delicate and unobtrusive humor. Vetle Vislie, of Telemark, has given excellent sketches of folk life in *Malm*, for example, which together with *Solvending*, a sort of lyrical prose poem in the form of a novel, belongs among his best books. Besides these he has written a number of novels which are partly philosophical fiction and partly psychological portrayal of character, and several plays. Ivar Mortensson-Egnund, of Österdal, has published collections of verse and plays, including a series of prose poems with a religious note dominating, and the remarkable play, *Varg i veum*, dealing with the Viking era. However, his greatest contribution to the intellectual life of Norway is



TARJEI VESAAS

perhaps his masterly translation of *The Poetic Edda*. From the East country, too, are Sven Moren, who, in a series of novels, has presented pictures from Trysil full of beauty and feeling and has also published collections of poems, and Hulda Garborg. She has written mostly in standard Norwegian, or Riksmåal, sketches from Hedmark for example, but she has also published plays and poetry in New Norwegian including the play about Hiawatha, *Den store freden* (*The Great Peace*), which appeared in 1919.

It is, on the whole, after the turn of the century and particularly after the Norwegian Theater got under way about twenty years ago that we have a dramatic literature in New Norwegian, though what is easily the most important drama in New Norwegian, Garborg's *Læraren* (*The Teacher*), dates from the close of the last century. Of the plays written in New Norwegian after 1900, we might mention in particular a couple by Olav Hoprekstad: *Friarar* (*The Suitors*) and *Björgedal*; Sigurd Eldegard: *Fossegrimen* (*The Water Sprite*) and *Knivarne* (*Knives*); Oskar Braaten: *Ungen* (*The Brat*) and *Stor-Anders*; Einride Tveito: *Ran*; Henrik Rytter: *Braahamaren*; Stein Balstad: *Kven Dömer* (*Who Judges*); Olav Gullvaag: *Den lange notti* (*The Long Night*); Tore Örjasæter: *Jo Gjende* and *Anne paa Torp*. There is unfortunately not space in one article for any closer



OLAV DUUN

consideration of the New Norwegian drama.

The novel and the lyric dominate New Norwegian literature also after the turn of the century, especially the novel. About 1910 New Norwegian literature was enriched by the appearance of two novelists who are among the most important Norwegian writers of the last generation, Olav Duun and Kristofer Uppdal, both from Trøndelag.

Olav Duun had already written a number of important novels when he began his masterpiece *The People of Juvik*, a series of six novels which appeared between 1918 and 1923. It is a modern Norwegian tribal saga, a picture of a family in growth and decay and of the development which the Norwegian peasant has undergone especially in

the last century. It has been said that Duun's portrayal of the Norwegian peasant in this work is unequalled. He has probed into the inmost recesses of his soul.

For the old Juvik people the family is of supreme importance; every other consideration must yield to it. They are a hard, strong, stubborn folk with deeper roots in Norse heathendom than in Christianity. Again and again in reading Duun's work, one is reminded of the people of the sagas. Blind Anders, for example, recalls most strikingly Eigil Skallagrimsson as an old man. Or he may recall the wise and venerable old man in Edvard Munch's painting *History* in the hall of the University. There is a breath of saga and heathendom about Blind Anders.

The three last volumes, that is half of the whole work, are devoted to one and the same man, Odin, one of the most radiant figures in all our literature. He is really the first wholly modern person in the Juvik family; he dares to act from other considerations than those demanded by the family. He is, or becomes little by little, the emancipated individual who acts according to his own judgment and according to his own conscience. The first volume dealing with him, *Fairy Land*, tells of his childhood—it is perhaps Duun's finest book. The next volume

tells of his youth, and in the last volume, *The Storm*, the struggle between him and Lauris, his enemy, is described. This volume is one of the high spots in Duun's production. Never to be forgotten is the conclusion where these two men in the midst of a violent tempest lie fighting over an upturned boat. One of them must yield, and Odin grants his enemy life. This action best shows that he was no true Juviking after all. The old Juvikings would have acted otherwise. Since the work on the people of Juvik, Duun has written among other things the excellent novel *Medmennsker* (*Fellowmen*) where the heroine, Ragnhild, is a feminine counterpart to Odin.



KRISTOFER UPPDAL

Kristofer Uppdal has also written his cycle of novels—*Dansen gjennom skuggeheimen* (*The Dance through the World of Shadows*), ten volumes of which appeared between 1911 and 1924. These novels also deal with the Norwegian peasant, but not with the Norwegian peasant who squats on his farm, deeply rooted in old tradition. Uppdal writes of the peasant who tears himself free from his milieu, goes wandering, becomes a proletarian, and enters the working class. The cycle is really a work about the development of the Norwegian working class, and is equaled in the literature of few countries. In Scandinavian literature it may be compared to the four-volume novel of the Danish proletarian author Martin Andersen Nexö, *Pelle the Conqueror*. Like Duun's *The People of Juvik*, Uppdal's *The Dance through the World of Shadows* is one of the masterpieces in Norwegian literature since the turn of the century. Uppdal presents a long succession of living and interesting characters in this work. Some of his proletarian figures are reminiscent of Hamsun's wanderers. The work is loose in composition, but it possesses great power and emotional strength. The first half ranks highest—its two best volumes being perhaps *Trolldom i lufta* (*Witchcraft in the Air*) and *Kongen* (*The King*).

Among the other novelists who entered the lists of New Norwegian

literature about 1910, we may mention Haakon Garaasen, who like Sven Moren describes life in Trysil, but more somberly and more powerfully. His style is bold and matter of fact. His two best books are *Roggfinne* and *Tungsjöætta* (*The Tungsjö Family*). A writer of quite another type is Olav Sletto of Halling who made his début in 1908 with the fine story *Dei gamle* (*The Old Folk*), and more recently in particular has written novels dealing with subjects taken from the Bible and the history of the Church.

Among the younger novelists in New Norwegian literature particular mention may be made of Sjur Bygd of Voss, who has written, among other things, the bold and powerful novel *Valplassen* (*The Field of Battle*), and Tarjei Vesaas of Telemark, one of the most outstanding talents among our younger writers. This last-named author has a wealth of feeling in his prose which makes one think of Selma Lagerlöf. His best novels are *Sendemann Huskuld* (*Messenger Huskuld*), *Dei svarte hestane* (*The Black Horses*), and *Fars reise* (*Father's Journey*), the last of which is his most characteristic and successful book. Inge Krokann, of Trøndelagen, has also attracted much attention with his rather obscure but powerful and talented novel, *I Dovre-sno*, the subject of which is taken from Norwegian history in the fifteenth century, a novel which is valuable both as a work of art and as a history of civilization. Ingebjörg Mælandsmo, from Telemark, Ingvald Forsberg, from Nordland, Hallvard Sandnes, from Setesdal, and the Westerners Ole Barman, Kr. Matre, Simon Nes, and Ragnvald Vaage have also shown talent in their novels. Finally, Halvor Floden, from Österdal, should be mentioned here; but it is especially with his delicate and fresh children's stories that he has won a name for himself.

As is the case with the most recent fiction in New Norwegian, the most recent New Norwegian lyric poetry has two particularly outstanding writers, the aforementioned Gudbrandsdal poets, Olav Aukrust, and Tore Örjasæter.

Olav Aukrust (died 1929) made a great sensation with his first work *Himmelvarden* (*The Heavenly Beacon*), which appeared in 1916. It is a magnificently conceived poem about man at war with himself and with the evil powers in the universe, a struggle which ends here with victory and with the religious experience of the meaning of life. From the "snake-pit" the soul lifts itself up towards the "heavenly beacon," towards God. This poem has great power and intensity, and it presents a series of gorgeous moods, emanations from a mighty Nature. Close to this work in content of ideas, but more clearly fashioned is Olav Aukrust's last work *Solrenning* (*Sunrise*), published after his death.

This work is also a poem about religious experience. Like *The Heavenly Beacon* it contains beautiful love lyrics.

But between these two works there appeared in 1926 *Hamar i hel-lom*, the work in which Aukrust proclaims his national views. It is his national program, and it is a powerful expression of homage to our old peasant culture, to Norwegian tradition, to the "hidden" Norway.

Tore Örjasæter has already been mentioned as the author of plays, but he is first and foremost a lyric poet. His greatest work is the poem in three volumes on *Gudbrand Langleite*; it appeared between 1913 and 1927 and is one of the masterpieces of modern Norwegian lyric poetry. It deals with a man who is struggling to find himself and to be himself, with his attempt to free himself from his milieu, his family, and his dependence on other men. Longing for freedom is perhaps the most characteristic feature of Tore Örjasæter's poetry. His two plays also deal with the emancipation of the individual.

In Tore Örjasæter's lyrics, too, there are magnificent expressions of feeling for nature and excellent love poems. His rhythm is quite different from Olav Aukrust's. They may suggest each other when it is a question of choice of subjects, but both are among the most original and individual poets in recent New Norwegian literature.

Besides these two outstanding lyricists, New Norwegian literature has a number of others who have contributed to our stock of lyric poetry in the last few years. I may mention the novelist Kristofer Uppdal who is also an important lyric poet; his poems have the same primitive power as his novels. Then there are the Westerners Henrik Rytter, Olav Nygard (died 1924), and Ragnvald Vaage, and finally Alexander Seippel, who grew up in Setesdal and has written "staves" and a long lyric, *Högsongen* (*The Song of Songs*), a tribute in sonnet form to women and love.

The generation which has grown up during and since the World War is also claiming recognition in the field of New Norwegian lyric poetry. The young Westerners, Jakob Sande and Halldis Moren, the daughter of the Trysil author Sven Moren, have published poems which are in many ways characteristic of the younger generation, first and foremost in their fresh and unprejudiced view of life and their firm hold on its realities. With the former, defiance of life is the underlying mood; with the latter, resignation to life. None of them bothers about the weighty moral and metaphysical problems with which so many Norwegian writers of the older generation grappled during and after the World War. They go in for life with open minds and new courage—without pondering over the riddles of existence. Life interests them more than the meaning of life.

"Homo Gardarensis"

By FR. C. C. HANSEN

Recent investigation of the graves in Greenland have revealed in detail the tragic story of how the early Norse settlers perished from racial degeneration brought about by privations and isolation. Examination of the skeletons has also brought to light a curious primitive type contrasting with the usual Nordic build. Professor Hansen calls this man the "Homo Gardarensis" and believes he must have been one of the individuals to whom the sagas ascribe jotun or troll extraction, men who were fierce and powerful but ugly in appearance.

IN THE YEAR A.D. 982, the Norwegian, Eric the Red, sailed from Iceland westward and discovered Greenland which he later colonized principally with men from Iceland. The colonies of the Norsemen were divided into two main districts: Eystri bygd, now the district of Julianehaab, and Vestri bygd, now the district of Godthaab.

Eric the Red's son, Leif the Lucky, discovered the continent of North America about the year 1000. The Norse colonies existed in Greenland for almost five hundred years, but in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries communication between the Greenland and Iceland colonies and the mother country, Norway, became less and less frequent and finally ceased entirely. The old Norse colonies in Greenland were completely obliterated, partly through fights with the Eskimo tribes advancing from the north, we are told in the old chronicles.

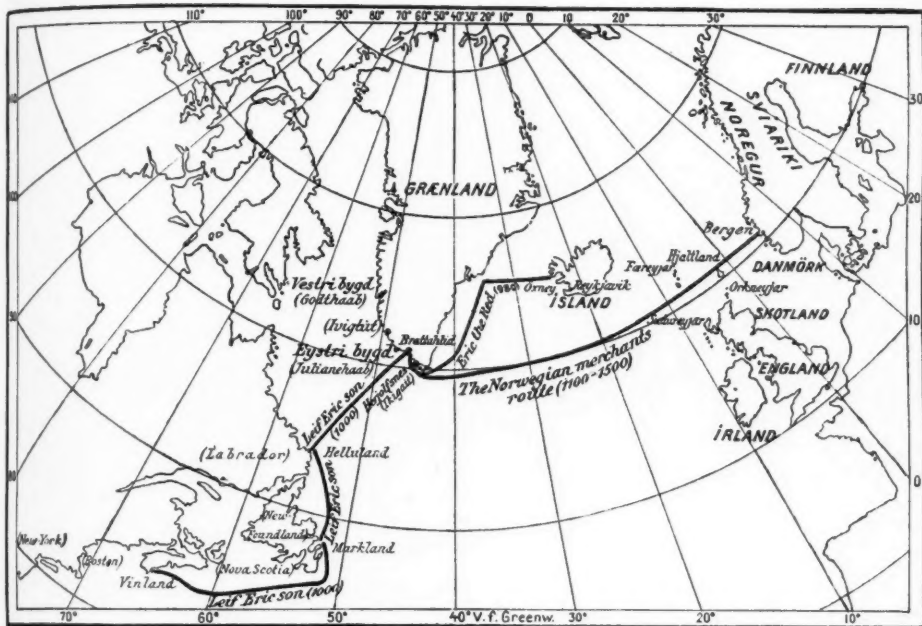
Eric the Red made his home on the farm Brattahlid at the farther end of the Eiriksfiord (now Tunugliarfik). In the vicinity of the same fiord on an isthmus separating Eiriksfiord from the head of Einarsfiord (now Igalikofjord), which lies to the south, at about 61° N.L., lay Greenland's episcopal seat Gardar (i.e., the farms) with a large cathedral. Some distance farther south at 60° N.L., on the seacoast at the northern point of Herjolfsfiord (now Anitsuarsuk), lay Herjolfsnes (the present Ikigait) with a sandy harbor, Sand, which was the first haven reached by the old Greenland voyagers in the early days. I mention these details because the excavations in these places, undertaken in 1921 and 1926, on the initiative of the Danish Commission for the Scientific Investigation of Greenland, have produced an abundance of information about the daily life and customs of the Norsemen in Greenland, throwing some light on the causes of their unhappy fate, which has hitherto puzzled us.

In September 1923, Dr. Poul Nörlund wrote an article in the



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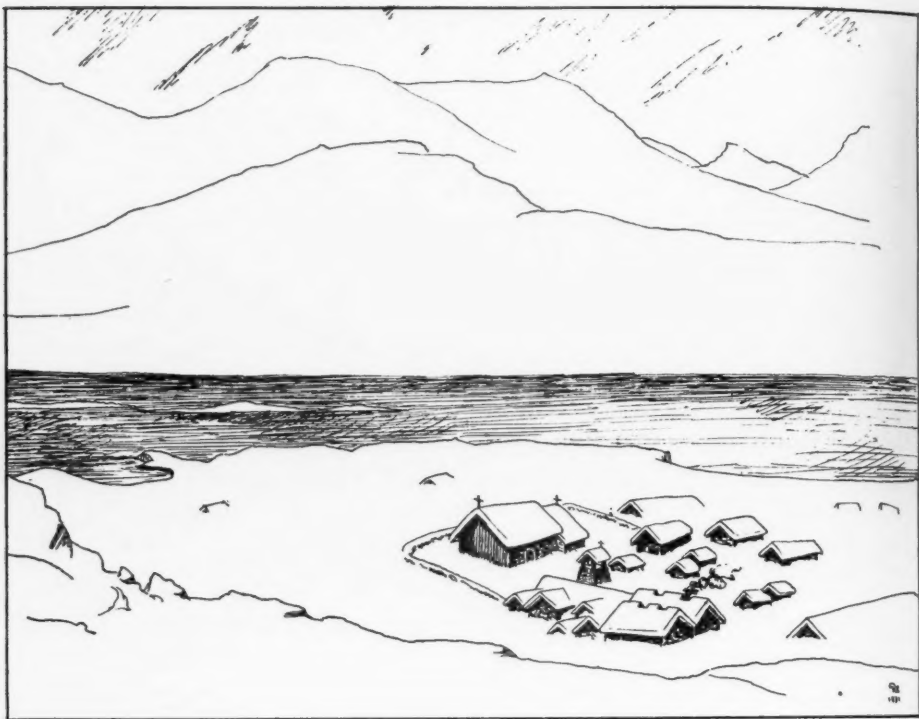


MAP SHOWING THE ROUTE TAKEN BY ERIC THE RED FROM ICELAND TO GREENLAND AND BY HIS SON LEIF TO VINLAND, ALSO THE ROUTE OF THE NORWEGIAN MERCHANTS FROM BERGEN TO GREENLAND

AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN REVIEW about his excavations in 1921 at Herjolfsnes (Ilgait) where some remarkable medieval costumes were found preserved in the frozen earth. Later excavations (1926) on a larger scale at Igaliko, the old episcopal seat Gardar, as well as in several places in the vicinity, have likewise afforded extraordinarily interesting evidence which supports the statement of the sagas that Greenland, in the first centuries of the Norse colonization, was much more favorable for human occupation than it later became; for proofs have been found that the climate must have grown more severe and that the area suitable for cultivation or pasture must have diminished.

The investigation of a large number of old Norse graves, in the cathedral at Gardar and around it, have yielded at least half a hundred human skeletons from about the twelfth century, most of them in a rather bad state, but some quite well preserved. The latter were brought to Copenhagen where they have been examined anthropologically by the writer. The results, however, are published only provisionally.

It may be noted in this connection that Dr. Nörlund found, in an almost completely untouched grave in the north transept of the cathe-



GARDAR, SHOWING THE CATHEDRAL AND BELFRY, THE BISHOP'S RESIDENCE, AND THE FARM BUILDINGS BELONGING TO IT. RECONSTRUCTED BY THE ARCHITECT, A. ROUSSELL, 1931

dral, a bishop, who, since from the anatomical examination he was seen to be a middle-aged man and since the archeological discoveries point to a period about the year 1200, may be presumed to be Bishop Jon Smyril (sparrowhawk). He was lying quite undisturbed in full episcopal robes, with the bishop's gold ring on his finger and with a bishop's staff with the head of the crozier carved from a walrus tusk, the Arctic substitute for ivory and one of the most precious articles of export from Greenland.

The shoes belonging to the bishop's costume were both present, but whereas the bones of the left foot were all there complete in the shoe, no bones were found in the right shoe, which indicates that he must have lost his right foot shortly before his death. It had probably dropped off owing to gangrene after frostbite, which was apparently the cause of his death.

But it is not my intention to go further into the antiquarian results of the excavations, however interesting they may be. Instead I shall relate something of what the examination of the human skeletons



Remains found in the Bishop's Grave in Gardar Cathedral. The ring and crozier can be plainly seen on the photograph. The skull has been removed in an earlier excavation, and the bones of the right foot are also lacking

which were brought to Copenhagen has taught us about the old vikings in Greenland.

In the sagas of Iceland and Greenland we have many accounts of the life of the Norsemen, their struggles and achievements; we are justified in picturing to ourselves these men and women of the Northern race, who set out in small open boats to settle on the harsh coasts of Greenland and thence came to America, as being big, strong, hardy, and incredibly persevering people. We find in Greenland today traces of the five-hundred-year colonization, ruins of their buildings, farms, and fields, their old roads and paths, churches and cloisters. Besides these, we find traces of their vanished life hidden in the earth for centuries and just as worthy of the archeologist's interest as Chaldæa or Egypt. Here are found rich sources of information about the daily life of the Northern race in the early Middle Ages.

But about the people themselves who lived in these surroundings, we have until now known almost nothing.

The anatomical anthropological examination of the bodies from the graves in the cathedral, in the churchyard, and from a few known localities nearby, shows us some pure Nordic types and some mixed types of both men and women. Besides individuals of ordinary stature, we find some men of an extraordinarily powerful type, just as we imagine that the old vikings were.

One can see that the severe life in the stern surroundings of Green-



THE BISHOP'S RING
AND THE END OF
HIS CROZIER FOUND
IN THE GRAVE

Norseman exhibited such peculiarly primitive characteristics that if he had been found in any other place than just here in a grave in a Christian churchyard among other Christian people, one would have been tempted to believe that one was confronted with a human type from a much earlier epoch. The skull shows, in certain respects, even more primitive characteristics than that of the Rhodesian man, and the lower jaw is the largest that has ever been seen in a human face. It is a hitherto undescribed type of man that is preserved here. The

land and on the sea has left its traces on their bodies: several of them have, in their later years, suffered severe rheumatic pains in the elbow and knee joints and in the spinal column. But though every movement must have been torture, this did not keep many of them from using their limbs to the last. But for others there came a time when they were hopelessly crippled, and then it is understandable that the heathen vikings preferred to be killed or to kill themselves, since they consecrated themselves to Odin and went to Valhalla, rather than to die the slow, painful, and inglorious "straw-death."

From other skeletons it can be seen that improper nourishment, lack of light and vitamins in childhood, brought on rickets and caused the bones to be more or less deformed, but it did not prevent the person from developing into an unusually powerful fellow even so.

The most remarkable thing of all, however, was the discovery of the "Homo Gardarensis," "the man from Gardar," dating from about the twelfth century A.D. In his skull and lower jaw this old

height of the body must have been considerably more than 5 ft., 10½ in. The accompanying diagram, reproduced from the writer's reconstruction of the cranium, face, and neck in profile, shows a large coarse viking type with a powerful "bull neck." The forehead is quite low and receding, the crown of the head is low, the cervical muscles extend high up on the back of the occipital bone where the latter shows a marked projection, but the cranium is large and roomy. The face and jaws are powerful. The occurrence of such types might well give rise to or strengthen the belief that they were men of jotun or troll race.

Curiously enough the Icelandic Saga of Eigil Skallagrimsson contains a description of the Marsh Men, some of whom were very handsome, while others, Kveldulf, Skallagrim, and Eigil, were ugly but poets!

"Torolf Skallagrimsson was handsome and popular, but his brother Eigil was big, strong, dark looking, and had a large face, a broad forehead, heavy dark eyebrows, a short thick nose, a long full beard, broad chin and cheek bones, a thick neck and unusually large shoulders. He was taller than all men. He had wolf-gray hair, but was early bald. His skull, which was found about the year 1150, was unusually large and remarkably heavy."

Concerning the *Homo Gardarensis*, the possibility cannot be rejected at the outset, that inherited characteristics of a very primitive sort (for of course we are all descended from remote ancestors) may have been preserved by close intermarriage within a few families and groups of people who lived in isolated corners of Norway, who later came to Iceland, and thence to the still more isolated Greenland.

If such primitive inherited characteristics both from the mother's and the father's side were to meet in an individual, there is the possibility that these characteristics would manifest themselves strongly.

But what can have caused the Norse colonies in Greenland gradually to die out or completely disappear? It has been thought—as certain accounts seemed to indicate—that the Norsemen were exterminated in struggles with the Eskimos, or that they mingled to some extent with the Eskimos and disappeared by that means. Neither of these alternatives, however, seems entirely satisfactory. The Eskimos are certainly no fighting race, and the larger Norsemen, armed with much superior weapons, would have had far and away the best chances in battle. Nor has there yet been found sure evidence of "absorption" of the old Norsemen by intermarriage with the Eskimos.

A good basis for the solution of this problem has been given us, however, by the discoveries at Herjolfsnes in 1921. Archeological investigations have shown beyond much doubt that the climate had become



"HOMO GARDARENSIS," PRIMITIVE TYPE RECONSTRUCTED BY PROFESSOR HANSEN FROM THE SKULL FOUND AT GARDAR. ONE THIRD NATURAL SIZE

colder. On account of this the colonists' chances of keeping cattle and of hunting and fishing diminished greatly. Furthermore, supplies from Europe fell off for several years and finally failed altogether, although the clothes found at Herjolfsnes, which tried their best to follow the European fashions, show that the connection with Europe was not wholly severed as late as the beginning of the fifteenth century.

But what no one had anticipated was the outcome of the anatomical investigation of the remains of skeletons lying in these clothes and hence belonging to individuals whose lifetime can be fixed chronologically at about the beginning of the fifteenth century.

For it was possible to demonstrate with absolute certainty that the Northern race had by this time degenerated, because of the unfavorable conditions for obtaining food, leading sometimes to actual famines of long duration and frequent recurrence. Besides this there were two other harmful factors: isolation and intermarriage. On the other hand there was no indication of race admixture with the Eskimos, nor was the civilization influenced by that of the Eskimo to any extent.

The accompanying diagram shows a reconstruction of a Norseman

based on one of the skulls from Herjolfsnes. It shows a type well known today. But the tall, powerful Norse race of Greenland, in the flourishing period of the twelfth century, which we know from Gardar and other localities, had degenerated. It had become a race of small people of poor physique, not very strong, impaired physically and burdened with many defects and diseases. The women suffered most, for they had deformities such as contraction of the pelvis so that it was only with great danger to their lives, if at all, that they could bear children. The mortality was very high among the new-born children and their mothers. The average length of life was so short that most of the individuals who were fortunate enough to survive the first dangerous years had the prospect of dying at an early age before their growth was completed.

Moreover the weight of brain of the Norse skulls from Herjolfsnes proved to be considerably below the average.

There is every indication that there was finally a long material and intellectual isolation with no infusion of new blood from outside. Inter-marriage among the few families in the solitary settlements of the great coast district must have been very prevalent as a result of this isolation, and under the unfavorable external conditions of life, which were steadily becoming worse, a stagnation and degeneration which were fatal to the Norse race were brought about.

This is the first time that we have been able thus to show the causes of the extinction of a population.

But at the same time we must emphasize this conclusion: the very fact that a group so insignificant in numbers, so weakened by unfavorable conditions of life, both internal and external, was nevertheless able to hold out at this outpost of the civilized world so long—way into the fifteenth century, longer than was formerly thought possible—bears high testimony to the original quality of the race. The Norsemen must certainly have been su-



A NORSE TYPE. RECONSTRUCTION FROM A SKULL FOUND AT HERJOLFSNES DATING FROM ABOUT THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY

perior to the Eskimos in battle, but the descendants of these people who sailed westward in small open boats and took land on Greenland's inhospitable shores, defying nature through hundreds of years—often with strife and dissension among themselves—were not overcome in a struggle with human forces alone. Under increasingly severe natural conditions, cold and slow periodic starvation, and more and more isolation, the Northern race finally had to succumb.

The natural influences which undermined the very life force of the race, slowly creeping in through several generations, could only have been conquered by help from the mother country, Norway, and by a supply of fresh blood infusing new life force in the debilitated stock. Help did not come, and the Norse race, impaired physically as we now know it to have been, could no longer hold out against the Eskimo population, splendidly adapted to the conditions by thousands of years of life in the Arctic, pressing in on them from the north. Its fate was sealed by the ice of Greenland.

I Am Not Lonely

By CHARLOTTE LUND

THOU thinkest I am lonely,
Thou Tony of the sunny clime.
Could'st thou but see me now
In my little hut perched high above the Fjord—
For friends, the seagulls, my books, my dogs;
My music, the intimate rythm of the waterfall,
The distant rumble of the sea;
My gallery, sun-sets, snow-capped mountains,
multi-colored rocks;
My inspiration—God himself,
To whom I bow in deep humility
That now, now in the full maturity of my days,
Am I thus privileged to find myself.
No, Tony, I am not lonely.

FAMOUS PAINTINGS IN THE NATIONAL MUSEUM AT STOCKHOLM

Notes by SIXTEN STRÖMBOM

IX. *Pontus*, by Carl Larsson

Carl Larsson was born in Stockholm in 1853, and died in Falun in 1919. He grew up in his native city and studied at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts where, however, he met with little encouragement. Later he went to Paris, and there he executed delicate paintings in the manner typical of the nineties.

He is best known and loved for his captivating delineations of Swedish family life, and above all it is his own children and his own home in Sundborn in Dalecarlia that he depicts with an irresistible charm. His compositions are animated and graceful, spontaneous and easily comprehensible. Carl Larsson's drawings are very well known, and he has illustrated innumerable books. His water colors can be recognized by his outlining of the contours with India ink, a technique that became a habit with him.

He has also executed mural paintings, among them the famous frescoes in the National Museum in Stockholm. Even on this monumental surface he has incorporated much of his playful style of drawing.

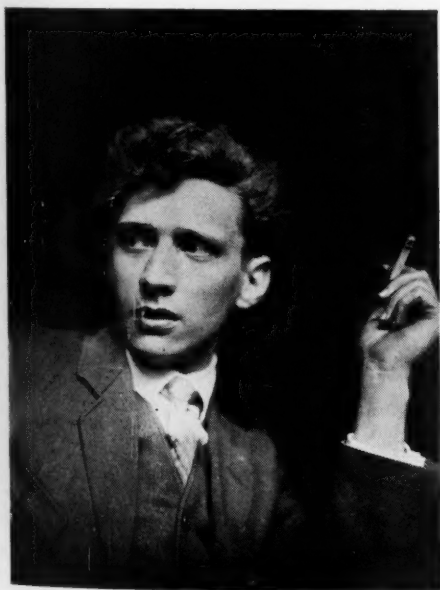
Less well known, but artistically especially fine, are his child portraits in oil, which are among the most spirited and vigorous paintings in modern Swedish art. "*Pontus*" is one of them, an intimate picture of a child which, through the economy of detail in the background, makes the model, a sober little flaxen-haired boy, the chief object, as he sits on the rag rug in the sunny and airy room. The painting has been kept in soft tones of gray and yellow white.



PONTUS, BY CARL LARSSON



ROBSON PEAK IN THE CANADIAN ROCKIES, ONE OF OLSON'S VIRILE STRUCTURAL STUDIES OF THE AMERICAN MOUNTAINS WHERE HE ONCE WORKED AS A LUMBERJACK

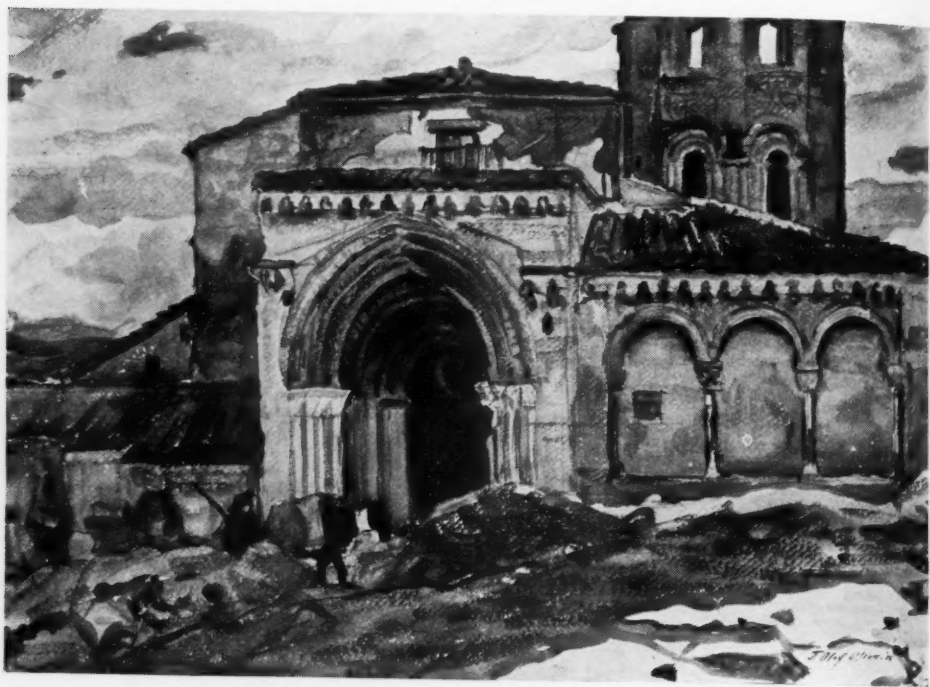


J. OLAF OLSON

A Swedish American Painter of the West

By FREDERICK W. COBURN

IFIRST saw some of J. Olaf Olson's vigorous, well made water colors exhibited in Boston, about ten years ago. I then wrote some favorable comment on them for the *Boston Herald*, and I predicted to myself that this young painter would go further. He seemed to me to have the Northern urge for self-expression, the racial feeling for dynamic design. Others, however, have made similar good starts, in a land where thousands study art with an expectation of qualifying as painters or sculptors. Many who appear promising succumb to the cruel competition of our over-productive age. One learns to be



ZOLOAGA'S STUDIO. ONE OF J. OLAF OLSON'S SPANISH SERIES.
ACQUIRED BY MRS. CHARLES H. MELLON, PITTSBURGH



WANDERING GYPSIES IN SPAIN. WATER COLOR BY J. OLAF OLSON

cautious in picking winners. I begin to think, nevertheless, in 1931, that Olson, who has persisted with the fortitude of his race, will be remembered by reason of the work he is doing these years.

Following Olson's successive exhibitions, I have liked his evident striving for simplified design, for distinguished relationships of color. I feel that his painting expresses what the Swedes term *stämning*, a mood of nature that transforms the artist into a phase of the nature he depicts. In such art is a reminiscence of the brooding melancholy of Northern nature. This has not been lost by repatriation.

When sixteen years old, Olson went from Minnesota to Canada where he had employment in lumber camps, on ranches, in railroad construction camps. He followed the sea for a time. He has, evidently, the Northern love of adventure, of wandering. He was already developing the yearning for artistic expression, too. He had seen a few paintings. He was familiar with the grandiose scenery of the West, which always thrilled him. The thought came to him that he, too, might paint sunsets among the Canadian Rockies, shadows on snowfields, solemn prospects over interminable swamps. At Calgary, while temporarily out of a job, he went into the library and read such books as the library had on art. That perusal settled his career. When next he obtained work he began to save for the purpose of studying art. He entered an art school at Seattle where he found as instructor Foko Tadama, trained in the modern Dutch mode of landscape painting. He had talented competitors as fellow students—young Japanese who brought to the school their native feeling for pretty pattern and calligraphic execution. Olson learned from them, also, while he had continual encouragement from Tadama. Still struggling to support himself, he enjoyed in 1915 one of the

great thrills of his life. He visited San Francisco and saw the art exhibition of the Panama Pacific Exposition.

With characteristic energy, Olson determined to go where other people were painting such pictures as he had studied in San Francisco. He left Seattle for New York, where he soon won a scholarship at the Art Students' League. He was likewise registered for a time in the classes of the National Academy of Design. Perhaps his most valued instructor was the late George Bellows. He was influenced also by Rockwell Kent. These two artists, I hardly need say, had a ruggedness of technique, a directness of expression, which appealed to the young Swedish American. He took some of his water colors to John Singer Sargent and received from him a criticism as well as commendation, the essentials of which have been embodied in his subsequent painting.

Fifteen years have passed since Olson settled in New York, whence he has traveled on painting tours in Scandinavia, Italy, Spain. He loves mountains, old architecture, picturesque people. He paints objectively. He has been untouched, as yet, by the furore for distortion which has possessed a generation bored by good drawing.

I have a notation that gives Olson's professional viewpoint. It is to the effect that the American painter need not strive for originality and need not copy the latest fashion from Paris. Originality will come to the naturally creative, without their special effort to attain it. The painter's first duty is to draw well. His art requires more than the solidity which modernism prizes; it must be built upon varied form and beautiful design. The over-sweet picture is gone forever, but the present-day artist can make use of what the old masters had to give and can add something of his own.



TRANSPORTATION IN LAPLAND

Schooldays in Lapland

By AMY JANE ENGLUND

THE LAPPS are for the most part a nomadic people, but schooldays are not unknown to their children who, during the long bright days of an Arctic summer, industriously con the three R's.

During our stay in Swedish Lapland we were invited to go with the Swedish school inspector on a tour of inspection to some of the Lapp schools in this Land of the Midnight Sun. We boarded the boat one July morning and slipped quickly away from shore leaving a sun-flecked trail.

Majestic mountains looked calmly down upon us. Aloof, secure, serene, unmarred by man, they loomed; mysterious and baffling. From their snow-crowned peaks, adventurous streams, released from icy bondage, threaded their way down-

ward. Colors were there in abundance—cold steely blue, deep violet, dusky purple, and warm red. Blended on the rippling surface of the water, they made the lake resemble a great stained-glass window or a rare and beautiful mosaic.

Unbroken silence prevailed. There were no signs of life or of motion except the shifting shadows flung by the clouds. Finally we saw in the distance some scattered huts. We were nearing a Lapp camp. As we approached the shore, we saw a Lapp woman running with the fleetness of a deer toward a distant hut, presumably to inform the neighbors that visitors were arriving.

About a mile away we could see a tall flagpole flying the Swedish flag of yellow and blue. Looking closely we could make out the school hut, the chief

object of our visit. We went ashore and finished the journey on foot, although this was not so easy as it looked. The ground was swampy and stony, and we often splashed into one of the many small puddles which covered the ground, while at every step hordes of mosquitoes came spitefully at us.

On the way we passed some of the huts, built of small logs, the lower ends of which were placed in a circle leaning toward each other, leaving an opening at the top for smoke to escape. The logs were covered with stone, earth, or some other material to make the huts reasonably water tight and warm. These were the permanent homes which are occupied only in summer. In winter the



A LAPP SCHOOLHOUSE

Lapps live in tents which they carry with them as they move with their reindeer herds from place to place.

When we reached the schoolhouse, we found a mere hut, conical in shape, and resembling an Indian wigwam. The door was narrow and low, and there were no windows. The interior was dark except for the limited amount of light that entered through the hole in the top.

We exchanged greetings with the teacher who told us that she was combining work with a vacation, thereby making it possible to spend another year in study at one of the teachers' seminaries in Stockholm. The schoolroom was a welcome relief after the glare of the sun and the onslaughts of the mosquitoes. A fire was burning in the center of the hut in a crude fireplace made by placing

stones in a circle on the ground. The earth floor was carpeted with birch boughs, and here the teacher slept. The nearby lake was her bathtub, and she prepared her food over the fire in the center of the room.

The equipment was meager. A blackboard leaned against the sloping wall; a box served as the teacher's chair, and also as her bookcase. A few simple colored pictures hung on the wall. Maps, a globe, and some brightly colored wooden beads strung on wires, completed the furnishings. We were offered a place on the ground at one side of the hut with the fire and the coffee pot between us.

Thus far we had seen no children, and we were beginning to wonder if we had

arrived on a holiday, when the teacher rang a hand-bell, and little figures emerged from the shrubbery and came scurrying toward the hut. The grace of their movements and their shy, curious eyes reminded us of woodland creatures whose haunts are far removed from civilization.

The girls curtsied and the boys, cap in hand, bowed. There were seven of them, four boys and three girls. Their clothing was made of bright blue woollen cloth trimmed with bands of yellow and red. The boys wore trousers that were tight at the knee and a tunic with a very full skirt. A belt, worn over the tunic, gave it the effect of a blouse with a full ruffle at the bottom. The girls wore dresses of the same material, trimmed also in yellow and red. Their skirts were rather

long and very full, and they wore gay-colored handkerchiefs around their necks, and bright calico aprons. Their black hair was braided in tight little pigtails and tied with bits of scarlet cloth.

Both girls and boys wore high moccasins of soft leather, without heels, sharply pointed and upturned at the toe. These were laced together with strips of leather, and spiral puttees of cloth were wound from the ankles to the knees. The boys had cloth caps of blue made with ear flaps and adorned at the center with a huge tassel of bright red wool. The girls wore round caps of blue cloth trimmed with red braid but without the tassel.

Each child carried a knife in a sheath belt. These knives had handles made from the bones or horns of the reindeer. The blades were thick and heavy but well sharpened. The knife is an indispensable part of the Lapp's personal equipment. Everyday necessity and the example of his elders teach the child to use this simple tool for a great many purposes. Supplemented by a spoon fashioned out of wood or bone, it is the Lapp's only table silver.

The children, obedient to the teacher's request, stood quietly and allowed us to photograph them. Then we followed them into the schoolroom, and the schoolwork began. The teacher sat on the box at the front of the room, and the children took their places facing her. They sat on the ground with their legs crossed beneath them and appeared to be entirely at ease.

We made ourselves as comfortable as possible, but were conscious of our stiffness and awkwardness in such an unaccustomed position. The air was filled with smoke which stung our eyes and made our throats smart, but the children apparently experienced no discomfort.

The teacher was low-voiced and pleasant, and her attitude one of poise and dignity. The discipline was perfect. While reciting, the children rose to their knees, and when the recitation was over they resumed their sitting position. The conversation was entirely in Swedish, and we were astonished to learn that the younger children spoke only their native tongue a few months before.

The children were in the first and the second grades, and their ages ranged from eight to ten years. They looked very small to us, but when we remembered that the average height of the male Lapplander is scarcely five feet, we realized that these children were, perhaps, average for their age and race.

Their teeth were remarkably good. When we later mentioned this fact to the teacher she attributed it to their food habits. She said that the reindeer is the chief source



A LAPP BOY READY FOR SCHOOL

of food, and that all parts of it are utilized. Nothing is wasted. The blood is carefully saved and is used, in combination with barley flour, in making a kind of suet pudding which is considered a great delicacy. This, supplemented with a limited amount of reindeer milk, furnishes the calcium so necessary in the formation of bones and teeth. The liver

and other glandular organs of the animal are also eaten, and these are rich in some of the health-giving vitamins so much talked of today. Thus, sheer necessity enables the Lapp child to secure a better balanced diet than many of his more prosperous neighbors have.

The children stood, and the teacher led them in singing, using a tuning fork to get the proper pitch. The words of the song were simple and pleasing, describing the beauty and solitude of their native land. The children evidently enjoyed this part of the program, for their eyes shone, and they swayed their lithe little bodies as they sang with a rhythm like the swaying of pine boughs in a gentle wind.

The song completed, reading began. With timid glances at the visitors, each first-grade child read, in turn, from his primer. The books dealt with the life of a Lapp child. They were simply illustrated in colors. The day's lesson told of the beauty and grandeur of their homeland, of the poetry of the forests and mountains, and of the wild life in the woods about them.

After the younger children had finished, the older children read a story telling of the love and tenderness of a Lapp mother for her child, and of the father's work with the herds. Then came a brief lesson in arithmetic. The children were eager to recite and often waved their hands to attract the attention of the teacher. When a child made a mistake, he was greatly embarrassed, but the other children were very polite, and no one laughed.

The session was short, but quite long enough for such out-of-door creatures,

and we detected looks of joy and relief when the time came for dismissal. After a grave and polite leave-taking, the children filed decorously out of the hut. Once outside, they made use of their freedom and ran nimbly to cover like a flock of quails, and then peeped at the strangers from behind the bushes.

The inspector explained that Lapp children are required to attend school as many days, weeks, and months as any other Swedish child in that region. Although the Lapps themselves speak a language of their own, they are required to learn Swedish, and Swedish only is spoken in the schoolroom. Since they are a nomadic people, it is more convenient and practical to hold school during the summer months. At this time the aged, the sick, the women, and the children are left in the permanent camps such as we were visiting. The able-bodied men herd the reindeer high in the mountains where pasture is to be found and mosquitoes are less annoying to the animals. For the convenience of the children whose homes are too far away from the school, a boarding-hut is maintained at the expense of the State. Here the children live a primitive dormitory life while attending school.

Time had passed quickly. Our boat was signaling for our return. We made our way to the shore and found that several Lapps had congregated in the hope of selling some trinkets and, incidentally, to see us off.

"Adieu, adieu"—they called, as our boat moved away, and we returned to our camp in the bright sunshine of an Arctic summer night.

CURRENT EVENTS



U · S · A ·

¶ One of the most significant gatherings of the year was held in Washington in May, when delegates from all the important countries of the world met for the Sixth Congress of the International Chamber of Commerce. The questions considered were reparations and war debts, tariffs, wage levels, agriculture, the silver problem, unemployment, and the Russian question. President Hoover in opening the conference ignored not only all these but the subjects on the agenda as well. His speech was a plea for the reduction of land armaments which he declared cost the gigantic sum of \$5,000,000,000 a year. This waste in military establishments meant both an economic burden and political unrest. Mr. Hoover's speech was regarded as a clever means of staying off criticism of the United States by reminding Europe that the war debts due this country came to only a small yearly fraction of this amount. ¶ The Treasury Department announced that \$800,000,000 in long-term government securities would be placed on the market on June 1. These bonds, bearing the extraordinarily low rate of interest of $3\frac{1}{8}$ per cent, mature in 1949. This financing has been made necessary by the drain on the Treasury resulting from the new bonus legislation under which veterans of the World War have already borrowed over \$1,000,000,000. ¶ The Hawley-Smoot Tariff has been blamed by many prominent business men and industrialists for a large part of the depression through which the country is passing. Among those who have recently advocated a revision of the present high rates on imports are: James D. Mooney, of the General Motors Corporation, General W. W. Atterbury, of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and Russell C. Leffingwell, of J. P. Morgan and Com-

pany. Julius H. Barnes, a close friend of President Hoover, suggested that adjustments should be made by the Tariff Commission rather than by Congress, the latter having much more unsettling effects on the country. ¶ The Pulitzer Prizes for 1930 were announced on May 5. Bernadotte E. Schmitt received the prize in history for his book, *The Coming of the War*. He is a professor in the University of Chicago. Henry James received the prize in biography for his life of Charles W. Eliot, and Margaret H. Barnes the prize for the best novel, *Years of Grace*. Susan Glaspell's play *Alison's House*, and *The Collected Poems* of Robert Frost received the prizes in drama and poetry. The articles of H. R. Knickerbocker on Soviet Russia which appeared in the *New York Evening Post* were judged the best foreign correspondence, and the *Atlanta Constitution* received a medal for its campaign against municipal graft. The editorial, "The Gentleman from Indiana," by C. S. Ryckman, in the *Fremont* (Nebraska) *Daily Tribune* was judged the best of the year. ¶ The death of David Belasco, actor, author, and manager, removed a well known figure from American theatrical life. Mr. Belasco whose work as producer spanned the period from the old gas-lit theater of the 'seventies to the most modern productions, had starred almost all the prominent actors of the past fifty years. ¶ Death also removed from the American scene, at the age of seventy-eight, Professor A. A. Michelson, designated by Einstein as one of the world's greatest scientists. Professor Michelson's experiments formed the basis for Einstein's theory of relativity. ¶ Memorial Day on May 30 passed with the usual parades and speeches. In New York a dwindling number of survivors of the battles of the Civil War with veterans of the Spanish and World Wars placed wreaths at Grant's

Tomb. At Valley Forge, President Hoover exhorted the American people to triumph over the depression, as their ancestors had over the bitter rigors of the winter at Valley Forge during the Revolution. ¶ In New York, Samuel Seabury, in charge of the investigations into the Magistrates Courts, recommended the removal of Magistrates Jean H. Norris and Jesse Silberman and the disbarment of sixteen lawyers for malpractices. Mr. Seabury was scathing in his denunciation of Mrs. Norris's conduct of the Women's Court. ¶ A political conference of the first importance was held at French Lick Springs, Indiana, during the last week of May, when the governors of the States met to discuss their problems. Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt of New York and Governor Albert C. Ritchie of Maryland, two outstanding candidates for the Democratic nomination, were present, and the usual crop of rumors was forthcoming. Governor Roosevelt's chances seem to depend in large measure on the outcome of the municipal scandals investigation in New York.



DENMARK

¶ It has been known for some time that a reorganization of the group of newspapers, which are known as "The Ferslew Press," was imminent. Conditions forced the owner, Mrs. Amalie Ferslew, to the realization that she could no longer continue the publication on a profitable basis, and for months conferences were held, mainly with representatives of Gyldendals Boghandel Nordisk Forlag, who finally won possession, but also with the Conservative Party, who wished to add this group of newspapers to its party list. These latter attempts were engineered by Representative Christmas Möller. No changes were announced in the editorial policy, when the properties changed hands. The group was started by Etatsraad C. Ferslew, who rightly has been termed the first newspaper king in Eu-

rope. Through the years he created four different organs, *Dagbladet*, *Dagens Nyheder*, *Nationaltidende*, and *Aftenbladet*, all of them from the small paper and printing company, of which he was owner. Mr. Ferslew died in 1910, one of Denmark's richest men. It was through his ingenious idea of giving a newspaper to each different type of individual that his fortune was reaped. His declared policy was to have stories written for each paper, in that particular paper's own style. Only one feature was used in all of his publications and that was his *Avertissementstidende*, the advertising organ, which in this manner gained a greater circulation than any other in Denmark. After his death in 1910 the newspapers were managed for a short time by a son, and they underwent a number of managerial changes. The result of one of these was the discontinuance of the advertising section for the papers as a group. Since then the financial value of the publications has decreased until now it appeared necessary for Mrs. Ferslew to dispose of them before June 1. ¶ A final decision between the needs of King Christian X and the Danish Rigsdag in Christianborg Castle has now been reached, and it is planned that the huge construction job of remaking the old palace will be finished within the year and that its halls and rooms will be used by that time in their proper ways. A throne room will be made out of the first floor, facing the huge square inside of the castle. It will be combined with one of the tower rooms. The rest of the first floor will be used by the Rigsdag. Other parts of the upper floors will be used for various governmental departments. It is also expected that the Ny Carlsberg Fond will defray the expenses of building the throne room. ¶ Unique praise of the work of a Danish artist, Stubbe Tehlbjerg, is contained in the catalog to the artist's exhibition of etchings and drawings in London. A foreword, written by Sir Campbell Dodgson, director of the permanent exhibition of

etchings in the British Museum and one of the world's foremost critics, reviews the works of Tehlbjerg in detail, praising their creator for his intimate knowledge of the Danish landscape and his ability to describe it in the lines of his etchings.

¶ A beloved actress, Ingeborg Middelboe, died in Denmark last month, a few weeks before she could celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of her début in the Royal Theater in Copenhagen. She was first acclaimed with fervor by Olaf Poulsen, master in the art of speech, when he heard her at her trial before acceptance by the national stage. Her first appearance was in the rôle of Agnes, where she succeeded Mme. Hennings, who recently celebrated her eightieth anniversary. Her loss to the Danish stage was mourned in a special obituary in *Berlingske Tidende*, written by Nicolai Neiiendam, who claimed that only the revolutionary change in stagecraft from the dream plays of a few decades ago to the present realistic drama, had thrown Ingeborg Middelboe into unjust oblivion. ¶ "Greenland House" at the Paris Colonial Exhibition has been acclaimed a great success by the French press, where it has been expressed that the exhibition would have been incomplete without the Greenland contribution. The Greenland House, placed amid the exotic exhibitions from colonies most of which are tropic or semi-tropic in nature, strikes a bizarre note and is sought by visitors to the exhibition. Panoramas give spectators a view of the progress in schooling, church conditions, travels, and explorations, which have been made. A touch of realism is obtained through the use of indirect electric lighting, which gives in color the waterfalls, and the sun-pictures. More realism is obtained through the exhibition of a large collection of pelts from this Danish colony. Native art and home work are also shown, and paintings by Danish artists who have become inspired by the grandeur of the land.



NORWAY

¶ After a heated debate which lasted three days in the Odelsting, Johan Ludwig Mowinckel's administration was defeated by 57 to 55 votes with the result that Mr. Mowinckel on behalf of the Government tendered its resignation. The bone of the ministerial contention was a concession granted to the Norwegian company Denofa, which is controlled by the English-Dutch margarine trust Unilever, already unpopular in Norway owing to its curtailment of Norway's whaling industry. At the same time the Mowinckel administration proposed an amendment to the Trust Act by which decisions which used to belong to the Trust Director in some cases should rest with the Government. A report submitted by the Protocol Committee of the Storting concluded by stamping the conduct of the Government in these affairs as jeopardizing public interests. Mr. Mowinckel entered an energetic protest against the finding of the committee, and staked the standing of his administration on the outcome of the Odelsting vote. ¶ The dilemma which arose after the retirement of the Mowinckel administration was solved, temporarily at least, by the formation of the first Peasant Party Government in the history of Norway. Mr. P. L. Kolstad, who was the President of the Odelsting, organized the new cabinet, himself taking the reins of the premiership. As Foreign Minister has been appointed Mr. Birger Braadland, a retired army major who since 1918 has lived on his estate near Halden. Mr. Per Larssen has been made Minister of Commerce; Mr. Jon Sundby is the new Minister of Agriculture; Mr. Asbjörn Lindboe is the Minister of Justice; Mr. R. Langeland is the Minister of Labor; Mr. Jacob Vik is the Minister of Social Affairs; Mr. Nils Trædal is the Minister of Church and Education; and Major Vidkun Quisling

is the Minister of War. ¶ The strike and lockout which have had an almost paralyzing effect on Norway since March 14 are still unsettled. The public arbitrator has proffered a number of proposals to the employers and workingmen, but so far with no result. Approximately 90,000 men are affected by the conflict. ¶ Unilever, the English-Dutch margarine trust, has informed the Norwegian whaling companies that it will need only fifty thousand tons of whale oil next season, and that it has decided to send two of its own ships to the Antarctic to bring back the desired quantity. Norwegian companies have approximately 500,000 barrels of whale oil in stock left over from last season's haul. It is hoped that the soap industries may absorb some of the oil, now that the price has gone down. ¶ An appeal signed by the leading statesmen of seven nations has been made for a memorial fund to enable the International Office for Refugees, which bears Fridtjof Nansen's name, to complete the work from which death called him away last year. There are tens of thousands of refugees who need protection and assistance. Almost simultaneously it became known that Alexander Nansen, Fridtjof's brother, had decided to hand over the sum of 250,000 kroner, which Dr. Nansen had left in trust with him, to the recently formed Nansen International Fund under the auspices of the League of Nations. The sum originated partly from the Nobel Prize granted to Nansen and from a prize presented to him by the Danish publisher Christian Erichsen some years ago. At the suggestion of former Premier J. L. Mowinckel, the sum will probably be administered by a Norwegian committee for the relief of distress in Norway under the rules of the international foundation when the latter is established. ¶ Rich biographical matter pertaining to Henrik Ibsen has come to light in Norway, thanks to Fru Bergliot Ibsen, widow of Sigurd Ibsen,

only son of the dramatist. After the death of Sigurd Ibsen his widow went thoroughly through his huge collection of manuscripts, finding among them a diary written by Henrik Ibsen, a number of letters from him to his son, besides a batch of notes written in preparation of some of his dramas. The finding of these manuscripts has created a stir in Norway. Although Ibsen was regarded as the foremost man of letters during his life, he was but little known even by his own countrymen. It is now hoped that the almost legendary veil which has hidden the life of Henrik Ibsen will be drawn somewhat aside, revealing Ibsen the man and Ibsen the writer. Fru Ibsen has permitted Professor Halvdan Koht, the noted Ibsen authority, to review the manuscripts.



SWEDEN

¶ Complete order was restored in the Ådalen pulp and lumber district in northern Sweden after the killing by the military forces of five strikers and one woman, and the danger of a general strike definitely passed. Peaceful demonstrations by organized labor were held throughout the country, but nowhere were there any serious disorders. The local strike itself was also settled on terms satisfactory to the workers. A Government committee was appointed to make a thorough investigation. Its members are Professor Östen Undén and Eliel Löfgren, both former Ministers of Foreign Affairs and delegates to the League of Nations; Arthur Lindhagen (chairman), Counsellor of Justice and former President of the Labor Court; Fredrik Göransson, head of the Sandviken Steel Works, and Fritjof Ekman, delegate of the Swedish Metal Workers Union. The strike at the pulp mill in question had been going on since last year, and the Minister of the National Social Service Department

had summoned both parties to a conference in Stockholm for the day after the outbreak. In the meantime the mill owners decided to attempt loading a ship with pulp for the American market, setting not only the office personnel to work but also calling in sixty strike-breakers. This resulted in a clash between the strikers and the strike-breakers, and when the local police found itself unable to cope with the situation, the provincial governor asked for military reinforcement. About one hundred infantrymen and twenty cavalry were dispatched. As a protest against the presence of armed troops the sawmill workers of the entire district declared a sympathy strike and started a parade of two thousand strong. They were ordered by the officers to disperse, but refused to turn, and as they continued their march shots were fired by the military, killing six persons. Even before the clash the district governor had ordered the pulp mill owners to remove the strike-breakers as a danger to public tranquillity, but though the local sheriff knew of this decision before he became an eyewitness of the bloodshed, he had no opportunity to inform the paraders. ¶ With the election of Gunnar Fant as mayor of Stockholm the parties of the Left have repeated the victory won by the Social-Democrats at the election of the new board of aldermen last March. Mr. Fant is a native of Stockholm and a jurist with an interest in social reform, particularly the improvement of municipal government. He succeeds Carl Lindhagen, one of the most picturesque individuals in Swedish public life, but is less radical in politics. His career has been that of a jurist, and he had served as judge in various districts ever since his graduation in law from Uppsala University in 1902. Since 1917 he has been mayor of Nyköping. The term of office is subjected only to the obligatory retirement at the age of 70. Thus Mr. Lindhagen has been a mayor since 1903, or twenty-eight years,

and since Mr. Fant is only fifty-two years old he can serve for eighteen years. ¶ Albin Ahrenberg, Sweden's crack flyer, who took a conspicuous part in the rescue of Augustine Courtauld from the Greenland ice, was commissioned a captain in the Swedish royal navy on a special motion of Carl Gustaf Ekman, the Premier. Ahrenberg previously held the rank of a non-commissioned officer in the navy and of captain in the Swedish merchant marine. He was enthusiastically greeted as he landed in Stockholm after his flight from Copenhagen. ¶ Headed by Captain Frank Hawks, America's "human bullet," an armada of some forty foreign planes from the United States, Great Britain, France, Germany, Belgium, Finland, Denmark, Norway, Lithuania, and other nations visited Stockholm during the international aircraft show. Crown Prince Gustaf Adolf was patron of the show which was divided into many units showing the progress of aviation from earliest days to our times. In connection with the show a Scandinavian air race for both land and water planes was held with more than forty entries from Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and Finland. ¶ Sweden's productive water power stations represent an investment of about one billion kronor, according to the annual report of the Swedish Water Power Association. The report also states that Sweden's actively utilized water power amounts to 1,736,000 horse power. ¶ Prince Gustaf Adolf, heir apparent to the Swedish throne, who recently became twenty-five years old, made plans to establish a household of his own in the romantic eighteenth century château at Haga, near Stockholm. One of the most popular members of Sweden's reigning family, the Prince visited the United States in 1928 when he acted as best man for his cousin, Count Folke Bernadotte, at the Count's wedding to Miss Estelle Manville, at Pleasantville, New York. The Prince is a bachelor, handsome and of athletic build, and the news that

he will soon move into his own home is causing some speculation in Stockholm as to when he intends to marry. ¶ A new Swedish-Norwegian scientific expedition to the Arctic region where the remains of S. A. Andrée and his companions were found last summer started from Narvik in northern Norway with Professor Hans W. Ahlmann, a Swedish member of the Andrée committee of experts, as leader. One of the objects of the expedition is to revisit White Island, where the Andrée party perished, and to look for more remains, as well as map the vicinity of the camp. The vessel used by Professor Ahlmann is the Norwegian sealer, *Quest*, which last year brought back the first news of what had happened to Andrée. Captain L. Schelderup is again in command. One of the participants is Lieutenant E. Christell, who took part in the rescue of General Nobile by Captain Einar Lundborg in 1928. A Norwegian civil engineer, Olaf Staxrud, who has charge of the dog teams, has already made fourteen trips to the far North. Other members are H. Mosby of the Geophysical Institute of Bergen, Norway, and O. Kulling, a geologist of Stockholm. ¶ Sweden announced itself willing to reform the calendar, especially to fix the date for Easter, provided the Roman Catholic Church and countries with which Sweden maintains trade and cultural relations accept the same changes. This was the gist of a report submitted to the Government by the Social Service Board, of which Dr. Gunnar Huss is the head. Under the plan which has been accepted by the Parliament of Great Britain, Easter would come on the first Sunday after the second Saturday in April and would thus fall every year between the 9th and the 16th of that month, instead of between the 22nd of March and the 25th of April as at present. ¶ A new law to impose

finer according to the capacity of the convicted person to pay has been passed by both chambers of the Swedish Riksdag after the legal committee of the parliament vetoed it. The law, originated by Professor Johan Thyrén, of Lund, who served as Minister of Justice 1926-1928, is called the "day fine law" because the daily income of each individual offender is reckoned when imposing fines. ¶ A bird sanctuary in honor of the late Queen Victoria of Sweden was set off on the northern end of the Swedish island of Öland in the Baltic Sea, thanks to money donated by Dr. Axel Munthe, the Queen's private physician, from the royalties on his book, *The Story of San Michele*. With the consent of King Gustaf the reserved area has been called Queen Victoria's Bird Sanctuary. ¶ Over a thousand melodies of the Swedish Lapps have been collected and written down by Karl Tirén, whose real occupation is that of a station agent of the Swedish State Railways, but who is a painter, violinist, and Lapp specialist by avocation. Recently Mr. Tirén was given a scholarship so that he can give more time to ethnographic work among the Lapps. ¶ Dr. Sven Hedin, Sweden's foremost Asiatic explorer, was awarded 250,000 kronor by the Swedish Government so that he may continue his scientific researches in the interior of Mongolia, carried on uninterruptedly for nearly three years. ¶ Five-hundred-year-old murals were brought to light in Mörarp church, near Hälsingborg, by means of extensive repairs to the ancient building. They were hidden under several coats of whitewash and revealed interesting religious scenes as well as Latin texts from the early part of the fifteenth century. ¶ The Boy Scout movement celebrated its twentieth anniversary in Stockholm, the first troop having been organized in 1911. Dr. Sven Hedin was one of the chief backers of the new idea.

THE AMERICAN SCANDINAVIAN FOUNDATION

*For better intellectual relations between the American and Scandinavian peoples,
by means of an exchange of students, publications, and a Bureau of Information*

ESTABLISHED BY NIELS FOULSON, IN 1911

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Government Advisory Committees: Danish—A. P. Weis, Chief of the Department of the Ministry of Education, Chairman; Norwegian—K. J. Hougen, Chief of the Department of Church and Education, Chairman. The Swedish Government is represented in the Swedish American Foundation (below).

Cooperating Bodies: Sweden—Sverige-Amerika Stiftelsen, Grevturegatan 14, Stockholm, Archbishop Nathan Söderblom, President; J. S. Edström, A. R. Nordvall, and Kommeriserådet Enström, Vice-presidents; Eva Fröberg, Secretary; Denmark—Danmarks Amerikanske Selskab, M. I. T. C. Clan, President; Viggo Carstensen, Secretary, Gammel Strand 48, Copenhagen; Norway—Norge-Amerika Fondet, Lille Strandgate 1, Oslo; K. J. Hougen, Chairman; Arne Kildal, Secretary.

Associates: All who are in sympathy with the aims of the Foundation are invited to become Associates. **Regular Associates**, paying \$3.00 annually, receive the *REVIEW*. **Sustaining Associates**, paying \$10.00 annually, receive the *REVIEW* and *CLASSICS*. **Life Associates**, paying \$200.00 once for all, receive all publications.

Fellows of the Foundation

Miss Esther Heiberg, Fellow of the Foundation from Denmark, who has been studying economics at Radcliffe College, returned home on the S.S. *United States* of the Scandinavian-American Line on May 15.

Mr. Stig Wijkström, Fellow of the Foundation from Sweden, who has been studying American forestry methods, sailed for home on the S.S. *Dresden* on May 21.

Mr. Carl Georg Bech, Fellow of the Foundation from Denmark, arrived in New York on the S.S. *Frederik VIII* of the Scandinavian-American Line on May 25. Mr. Bech, who is the son of the Danish Consul General in New York, will take up his duties with the United States Forest Service at Newhalen, Washington, on June 15.

Mr. Harry Öhlin, Fellow of the Foundation from Sweden arrived in New York on the S.S. *Homer* on May 20. Mr. Öhlin will attend the summer session at Columbia University.

Mrs. Leach on New York Commission

Mrs. Henry Goddard Leach, wife of the president of the Foundation, was re-

cently appointed by Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt a member of the legislative committee to investigate the administration of justice in New York. Mrs. Leach has long been active in civic affairs and was for some time president of the State League of Women Voters. The Governor was quoted as saying that the purpose of the commission was to provide "Cheaper justice for the poor man."

American-Scandinavian Forum

The regular monthly meeting of the American-Scandinavian Forum was held in Phillips Brooks House, Cambridge, on May 22. Professor William Hovgaard of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Trustee of the Foundation was the speaker. He gave an illustrated lecture on "The Viking Age and the Voyages of the Norsemen to America." Miss Dorothy George, accompanied by Mr. Edwin Biltcliffe, presented a program of songs after the lecture.

At the meeting on April 24, Professor Adolph B. Benson of Yale University spoke on "The Scandinavian Influence in American Literature."

Library Work in Sweden and U.S.A.

Miss Greta Linder, of Stockholm, Fellow from Sweden 1915-16, in a sprightly lecture before the Swedish Library Association at its annual meeting, compared American and Swedish library methods. It is clear that the American conception of the library as everybody's servant is now also prevalent in Sweden. Miss Linder spoke in particular of the reference work. When she first came to the New York Public Library she was somewhat startled by such questions as: "What do you know about Mermaid Tavern, Faneuil Hall, Huis ten Bosch, Appomatox Court House; about James G. Blaine, St. Bernard, Ezra, and General Togo; about Rosinante, Pan, Cavaliers of Ekeby, The Lone Star, etc., etc." At present, however, it would seem that the reference desk in the Stockholm City Library is as versatile in its functions as that in New York, and Miss Linder records questions ranging all the way from the use of calling cards to the habits of tortoises. She believes in the great importance of the reference desk as a social institution and thinks it is not a waste of the librarian's time to answer all questions that come from real seekers after information—except possibly those who are only looking for answers to cross-word puzzles.

Professor Rölvaag Resigns from St. Olaf's Faculty

Professor O. E. Rölvaag, who has been the head of the Norwegian Department of St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota, for twenty-five years, has handed in his resignation, in order to devote himself wholly to writing. He has completed a new novel entitled *Their Father's God*, which will be published simultaneously in Norwegian and English in the early autumn.

American Exhibitions of Milles's Sculpture

A comprehensive exhibition of Carl Milles's sculpture was opened June 1 for a period of six weeks in St. Louis. It included most of the sculptor's works; pieces having been sent there not only from Sweden, but from England, Holland, and Germany. The Swedish artist has been invited to exhibit in the Toledo Museum of Art at a later date, and a large exhibition in New York in the autumn is also being planned.

Among the sculptor's major commissions at present is a bronze statue of General Robert E. Lee for Dallas, Texas. A bronze model of his design is now on view in the Art Association of Dallas.

Stockholm's New City Plan Open to International Competition

Sweden has, in spite of all her own splendid architects, opened to all the world the opportunity to submit plans for rebuilding the lower Norrmalm section of Stockholm. The streets in a part of this quarter are still as they were laid out according to a plan adopted in the seventeenth century. They are now to be widened in order to relieve traffic congestion, and Sveavägen is to be extended to Gustav Adolfstorg, one of Stockholm's most important squares.

Not less than 90,000 kronor has been considered necessary by the city government as money prizes for the successful designs in the architectural competition.

NORTHERN LIGHTS

Gifts to Norwegian and Swedish Universities from the Rockefeller Foundation

The Rockefeller Foundation has recently donated \$105,000 to the University of Oslo for the building and equipping of an astrophysical institute. The scientific research of the new institute will be directed by Professor Svein Rosseland of the University's faculty.

To Stockholm University there has been given \$100,000, to be used for the construction of a new building to house the institutes of sociology, statistics, and economics.



THE FINNISH ARCHITECT, ELIEL SAARINEN, AT THE SWEDISH ARCHITECTURAL EXHIBITION IN NEW YORK

The Norden Societies

Nordens Kalender 1931 is the twelfth annual yearbook issued jointly by the five associated, but independent, societies called Norden in Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden.

The purpose of these associations is to further knowledge and understanding, friendship, and cooperation among the Scandinavian nations. This aim the society fosters by means of publications, exchange of lecturers, short courses for teachers and other professional groups, and excursions for school children and students from one country to another where they are entertained at public functions and live as guests in the homes of their neighbors.

The reports of the societies' work and

the lists of officers occupy only a few pages of the yearbook, and even some of these are devoted to attractive pictures illustrating the various recreational and educational activities and excursions of the year. A notable event was the Norwegian week arranged in Stockholm.

The remainder of the volume consists of articles and short stories by a representative group of contributors. A short introductory essay by Sweden's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Fr. Ramel, discusses closer Northern interrelations and their influence on world politics. Professor Björn Helland-Hansen writes of Nansen, many of whose drawings are reproduced to accompany the text. The Danish castle, Frederiksborg, now a national historical museum, is described by Christian Elling,

and Danish painting by Karl Madsen. To Frederiksberg's garden Helge Rode pays tribute. Imatra's saga, the harnessing of Finland's mighty river, is told by Viljo Castrén, and Ivar Harrie writes on Fennoscandia. The pleasures of a walking tour in Norway's lofty mountains are recounted by Andreas Backer. Ronald Fanger recalls the poets' attitude to Scandinavianism from 1814 to last year's meeting of the Authors' Association.

Short stories by Jeanna Oterdahl, Olav Duun, and Kristmann Gudmundsson, and a poem by Hjalmar Gullberg are included in the volume. Fine illustrations, many of them full-page, embellish the large quarto pages.

The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study

The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study held its annual meeting in May at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois. It was at this college that Professor Jules Mauritzson taught Swedish language and literature from 1901 to 1930, and the meeting was in a sense a memorial to him.

At the sessions papers were read on ancient and modern Scandinavian literature. A dinner meeting was held at Fort Armstrong Hotel, where Dr. E. W. Olson was the chief speaker, making an address on Professor Mauritzson which will be published in *Scandinavian Studies and Notes*.

The following officers were elected: President, Professor Henning Larsen, University of Iowa; Vice-President, Professor G. T. Flom, University of Illinois; Secretary-Treasurer, Professor Joseph Alexis, University of Nebraska; Educational Secretary, Miss Maren Michelet, South High School, Minneapolis; Editor of Publications, Professor A. M. Sturtevant, University of Kansas.

The International People's College

The summer or vacation courses at the International People's College in Elsinore, Denmark, are this year divided into three periods of twelve days each, beginning July 15, July 30, and August 12. Aside from lectures by the permanent teaching staff and the principal of the school, Peter Manniche, there will be a number of eminent visiting lecturers to assist in the daily instruction. In addition to the regular classes a conference on the general subject, "Looking Toward a New World," has been announced, and among the leaders of this conference are some outstanding personalities of England, Germany, and the Scandinavian countries.

In the late summer, from August 22 to 26, an international meeting of Quakers, Friends' Service Conference, will be held at the College with discussion of the theme, "Quakerism and Modern Life and Thought." This is to be followed by a group tour to England and Wales, August 29 to September 13.

Inquiries from American students may be directed to Mr. John R. Barton, International People's College, Elsinore.

A Danish Agaricologist Will Visit America

Professor Jakob E. Lange, author of *Studies in the Agarics of Denmark I-VIII* and principal of the School for Small Freeholders in Odense, Denmark, is planning to arrive in New York next August with Mrs. Lange for an American tour. Their itinerary extends from coast to coast in the United States, and includes New England, the South, and Canada. The visit will have a double purpose—to study American agaricaceæ flora, and to promote cooperation between American and European scientists doing research on this fungus family.

Professor Lange will in addition lecture in English and Danish on social and agrarian conditions in modern Denmark, adult education, and the folk high schools, as he did on his tour in 1927. Mrs. Lange is also an experienced lecturer in the field of Danish ballads, modern literature of the farming world, and education.

Swedish Youth Leaders Visit America

Mr. Hugo Cedergren, general secretary of the Swedish National Council of the Y.M.C.A., came to America for a four-months stay as a delegate of the World's Conference of the Y.M.C.A. to be held in Toronto and Cleveland this summer. He is accompanied by his wife, who is a daughter of Prince Bernadotte, a brother of the King of Sweden. Mrs. Cedergren is also vitally interested in the youth of her country and is president of the Young Women's Christian Association of Sweden, and a member of its World Committee.

Norwegian Decorative Arts Exhibited at Grand Central Palace

An exhibition of Norwegian decorative arts, in a series of international exhibits of arts and crafts, was opened at the Home Making Center in the Grand Central Palace in May. The initiative in arranging for the display was taken by Mrs. Berthea Aske Bergh of the Weavers, who exhibited her early and modern pictorial tapestries. Besides weavings, porcelains, pottery, faience, silver, and glass from Norway are being shown.

Scandinavian American Artists

The Society of Scandinavian American Artists is planning to hold an exhibition of American Scandinavian painting and sculpture at the Brooklyn Museum early in 1932. Inquiries regarding the exhibition may be addressed to Mr. Chris E. Olsen, Box 72, New Nyack, New York.

Art for Commodities

By GEORG NYGAARD

TO COPENHAGEN goes the honor for the founding of an artists' exchange which in the course of six years has developed into a vigorous and flourishing institution.

In the years following the war, when money was scarce, it was the artist who suffered particularly. The public regarded art as a luxury that could be dispensed with. Many artists found it very difficult to dispose of their work, and distress spread in the world of art. Various remedies were sought. An appeal to the State for aid was considered. Several funds, among others the very munificent New Carlsberg Foundation, the gift of the brewer and art enthusiast, Carl Jacob-

sen, stepped into the breach and gave extensive assistance, both making purchases and placing large orders with artists; but it was not sufficient.

Then one of the artists themselves, Aage Bertelsen, the painter, came forward with a proposal. It was an idea which in its sheer simplicity seems as obvious as Columbus's egg! The idea was this: to abolish money completely and cut out all indirect trade. They would return to the old-time principle of barter. The artist would exchange his work for commodities direct from the dealer.

The idea immediately roused great interest. It was received with intelligent appreciation by the business organiza-

tions which were approached, and was successfully put into execution.

An association was formed consisting of artists—painters, sculptors, and architects—and a number of business and trades organizations representing, so to speak, all trades and professions from automobile companies and landed proprietors to doctors, bakers, and hucksters.

The State showed its interest in the matter by handing over to the association gratis exhibition rooms in government-owned property, and the organization of the exchange was at once eagerly tackled.

In order to furnish a guarantee that the art which was offered was really genuine, it was made a condition that the artists should have exhibited for a certain number of years at one of the recognized official exhibitions, but otherwise all trends were represented, the conservative as well as the most extreme modern. Everyone could obtain works of art according to his taste. That was the principle.

A salaried business manager and a legal adviser were secured for the undertaking. In order to cover the small expenses thus incurred, a ruling was made that the artist should pay in 5 per cent of the sum he received for his work. If a painting were valued at 500 kroner, for example, the artist received 475 kroners' worth of commodities, whether foodstuffs, manufactured articles, board and lodging, or a building lot. There is the case of an artist who built himself a little house with living quarters and a studio and paid the landowner, mason, carpenter, and painter for it with works of art. Yes, even in the case of obstetrical aid the wife of an artist arranged that her husband furnish a painting in return!

The transaction of business is extremely simple and easy for both parties.

The artists have placed their works in the exhibition rooms, and there the dealers may choose whatever they desire. It

may happen, for example, that an artist needs a motorcycle. He simply calls up the office and communicates his wish, and the business manager, Miss Ost, who is very popular and a great favorite with the artists, endeavors to establish a connection between the artist and the dealer. Or, on the other hand, it may happen that a merchant calls up and says he wants a painting or a piece of sculpture; after an inquiry as to the exact nature of his wishes, he is put in touch with a suitable artist.

That this form of business has caught on is seen from the fact that the annual turnover in recent years has amounted to about 200,000 kroner.

At the beginning the association numbered 227 artist members; there are now considerably more, and there are about one hundred business and trades' organizations, representing several thousand members, which have, in the course of the years, exchanged commodities for works of art. Satisfaction with this exchange has been, as was remarked before, mutual.

"Art for Commodities" in Copenhagen has attracted considerable attention, too, in foreign countries. From America, France, Holland, and Sweden questions regarding business methods have been received with requests for more detailed information as to how the exchange has operated. Sweden in particular has shown great interest. The artists' club in Stockholm discussed the matter at a meeting of the members, and it is extremely probable that an attempt will be made to establish a similar institution there. The Danish association has shown itself the most effective form of assistance in meeting the crises to which the artist's profession has been exposed during a difficult period, crises which it is facing at the present moment all over the world.

An artist had a happy idea, and it has been carried out to the happiness of many.



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TRADE NOTES

THE DIFFICULT BUTTER MARKET FOR DANISH PRODUCERS

The steadily decreasing prices of butter, coupled with the unusually low demand for this commodity, is being discussed in the current issue of the leading farm publication in Denmark. The fall in prices is attributed to the poor industrial conditions of most countries, where a market hitherto has been found. The price of Danish butter, when sold at a reasonable profit for the farmers, is higher than oil imitations and is therefore discarded in favor of these latter productions. Another factor, it was pointed out, is the increased production of butter during the spring months in countries where this food in other months must be procured from foreign markets. A general rise in tariffs, especially in Germany, is also a contributing cause and the fact that Great Britain, one of Denmark's largest butter customers, now more and more goes to her colonies in search of her food products, has also hurt the Danish trade considerably. It is hoped that the exceedingly low prices will invite storage purchases and that this will aid in the disposal of Denmark's greatest export article.

NORWEGIAN WHALERS HAVE LARGE CATCH

The report of Norwegian whalers shows that the catch of the season has been unusually large. Although two whale ships are still unreported, the aggregate amount of oil which has been reported by others is now put at 2,426,900 barrels against 1,506,285 barrels last year. The missing reports are from Bryde and Dahis's expeditions on the *Thor I* and the *Thorshammer*, which last year reported 172,500 barrels. Foreign whaling companies are harder to tabulate because two companies, both of which have finished their hunts for the year, have failed to report their catch. All other whalers, however, have already tabulated their productions and these figures show that outside of Norwegian expeditions a total of 762,000 barrels of oil against last year's 574,339 barrels was the result. The companies who have failed to report showed a production last year of 236,400 barrels; on this basis it has then been estimated that the total whale oil production for the year is around 3,610,000 barrels.

RADIO COMMUNICATION INCREASING

Radio as a means of communication between Sweden and the United States is becoming increasingly popular, according to a report by Count Adolf Hamilton, head of the Swedish government telephone, telegraph, and radio board. Thus the sending and receiving station at Grimeton near Gothenburg on Sweden's western coast exchanged 4,592,199 words in 1930 against 1,945,367 in 1921.

PROSPECTING IN ARABIA

At the request of the Kingdom of Hedjaz, the Swedish government geological survey took steps to equip a prospecting expedition to search for oil and minerals in Arabia. The expedition will be made up of members of the geological survey group and engineers of the Electrical Prospecting Company.

DIRE

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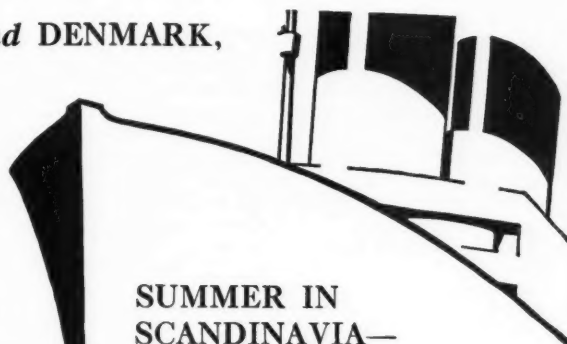
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Aug. 27	Aug. 28	Frederik VIII	Sept. 12
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Sept. 16	Sept. 17	United States	Oct. 3
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SHIPPING NOTES

INTERESTING RETURN TO SAIL AND STEAM COMBINATION

Commander Christian Blom, head of the Norwegian Navy Yard, has recently, in a speech, proposed an interesting return to the old wind-driven ship, which he thinks can be constructed to give as much speed as the present type of freight steamer when combined with Diesel engines. The advantage lies in the greatly reduced operation cost. His plan is to construct ships with the bow of a modern yacht, capable of doing steamship speed with Diesel engines which are, however, to be used only in docking, when adverse winds hinder satisfactory progress, and to operate the vessel in dangerous storms. The commander claims that sails will be able to produce approximately the same speed as is now obtained by freighters, at a greatly reduced cost, when navigated under normal conditions. His plans bring to mind the old type of sail and steam ships, which were the forerunners of our present steel steamboats. He said that these were built for carrying large cargoes, with no regard for speed. He proposes that the new type should be used mainly for passenger traffic over long distances. In plans and calculations which Commander Blom submitted it was shown, that a speed of twenty knots was within reach of his combination vessel.

NEW CANADA-SWEDEN LINE OPENED

A new line between Canada and Sweden was officially opened on May 2, when a Swedish liner

sailed from Gothenburg to Montreal on her maiden voyage. The new company is the Swedish American Mexico Line, which intends to have regular trade between the Americas, where ports of call will be in Canada and in Mexico and, Sweden, where the liners will dock at Gothenburg, Malmö, and several of the Baltic Sea ports. The *Korsholm* motorship, was the inaugurating liner, sailing for Gothenburg with a cargo of 1,500 tons from the Baltic ports and 450 tons from her home port. Her ice in the Baltic hindered a heavier cargo, and it is expected that the boats will sail with full loads when more Baltic ports are ice-free. The line works in cooperation with the Norwegian-American Line, and the next steamer was the S.S. *Effjord*, leaving Norway on May 22. The Swedish motorship *Odensholm* followed in June.

THE DANISH NAVY DEPENDS ON OIL FOR FUEL

A movement in Great Britain to have the navy return from oil to coal as its fuel, based mainly on the thought that it would help the unemployment situation in that it would cause the mines to obtain a greatly increased amount of business, is also because England, as an island country, would be cut off from oil supplies during a war, brought attention to the fact that the small British navy almost exclusively uses oil, the expense being mainly of the Diesel motor type. Denmark, however, has neither oil nor coal supplies of her own, there can be no question as to which is preferable in case of war. It has been reported that the three recently finished torpedo boats

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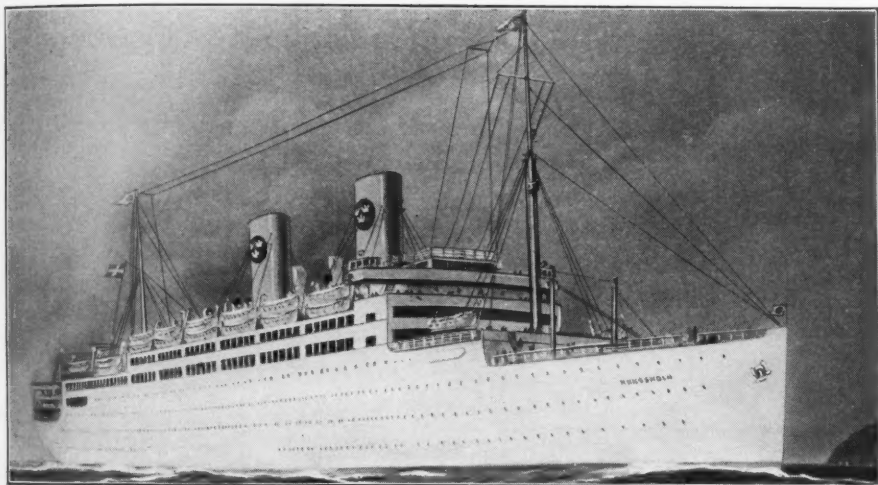
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INSURANCE NOTES

NORWEGIAN LIQUIDATED INSURANCE COMPANIES PAY DIVIDENDS

Creditors in the Liberty Marine Insurance and the North Atlantic Insurance companies, which have been in liquidation since 1926, will receive an extra dividend of respectively 13 and 15 per cent, bringing the total dividends to 76½ and 78½ per cent. Both of these companies, together with the defunct Jefferson Insurance Company, which since its liquidation has paid 100 per cent dividends, formed the Hannevig group which once operated under the name of Northern Underwriting Agency. The liquidation of the companies was caused directly by the bankruptcy of Hannevig and Company, with which these companies had deposited a cash amount of more than their resources and capital. They were reassured in other Scandinavian companies, principally by Norsk Atlas.

DANISH INSURANCE COMPANY PAYS DIVIDEND

At the annual meeting of the "National" insurance company of Copenhagen, Denmark, it was revealed that the company had found it safer to limit its reinsurance business in view of the alarming conditions of the international insurance market. In spite of this the figures showed that the company had done remarkably well, its income from premiums aggregating 9,590,000 kroner against last year's 11,320,000. The drop in income, however, was explained as having been caused by

the fact that the life insurance in the company had been turned over to a sister company, "Hann i Haand," during the year. A 6 per cent dividend was declared, while 100,000 kroner were put aside in a reserve fund.

SHIPPING NOTES

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well as the three, which now are under construction, are made for oil consumption. The same is the case with the inspection ship *Hvidbjørnen* and the *Niels Juul*, the only larger type ship in the navy, can avail itself of either type of fuel. Submarines are, of course, furnished with oil-burning Diesel engines as is the new royal yacht.

SHIPPING STILL DEPRESSED

Norwegian Ship Brokers' Association recently held its annual meeting in Oslo. The president, Mr. Johan Martens, said in his opening speech that the present crisis in world commerce was much more complicated in its causes and effects than earlier crises, and it would probably last longer. While he could not say anything definite, he did not believe the situation would clear up in the near future. All shipping has suffered with the general decline in international commerce. The depression has been general all over Scandinavia as well as in the Baltic countries.

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